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Four drown, 17 missing after boat capsizes in Uttar Pradesh
page 14

Former Kerala Minister Thomas Isaac need not appear till Aug. 17: ED
page 11

SSLV programme need not be declared a failure, says ISRO chief
page 15

Rahul to lead India in ODI series against Zimbabwe
page 19

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NEARBY

Govt. directs AC to hoist tricolour at Idgah Maidan

BENGALURU

The State government has decided to hoist the national flag and celebrate Independence Day at Idgah Maidan in Chamarajpet in Bengaluru on Monday.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 4

TAC recommends hospital care for elderly

BENGALURU

With an increase in COVID deaths in Karnataka, the State's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has recommended that senior citizens and those with comorbidities should seek hospital care and not opt for home isolation. Most of the deaths are among senior citizens and those with comorbidities, the TAC noted.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 4

Praveen murder case: 3 main assailants held

MANGALURU

The Dakshina Kannada police on Thursday announced the arrest of three persons who allegedly killed 31-year-old BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru at Bellare in Sullia taluk on July 26.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 10

METROPLUS ▸ PAGE 9

India slams China for blocking move against JeM deputy chief

Beijing thwarts a joint India-U.S. bid to list Asghar as UNSC designated terrorist

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

China on Thursday thwarted a joint India-U.S. bid to list Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) deputy chief Rauf Asghar as a UN Security Council-designated terrorist by placing a "technical hold" on the process, a move India called "politically motivated" and evidence of China's "doublespeak" on Pakistan-based terrorism.

Rauf Asghar, the brother of JeM leader Masood Azhar, is accused of masterminding a number of terror attacks from the IC-814 hijacking in 1999, the Parliament attack in 2001, as well as a number of attacks on security forces personnel from 2014-2019, including the strikes on the Air Force base in Pathankot, Army camps in Kathua, Nagrota, Sanjwan and other locations.

The National Intelligence Agency chargesheet on the Pulwama terror bombing in 2019, in which 42 CRPF personnel died, also names Rauf Asghar and Masood Azhar.

Also known as Abdul Rauf Azhar Alvi, Asghar was arrested by the Pakistani authorities in 2019 and convicted for terror financing charges, Pakistani officials had submitted to the Financial Action Task Force some months ago. It is unclear where he is being held, however.

Who is Rauf Asghar?

- Brother of Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar
- Planned and executed the IC-814 hijacking to free Azhar and two other terrorists in 1999
- Wanted for Parliament attack, terror strikes on security forces in Pulwama and other areas
- Wanted for organising training camps, fund raising drives, coordinating with Lashkar-e-Taiba on anti-India attacks
- Arrested In Pakistan in 2019 as part of the National Action Plan on Terror and convicted for terror finance

China's poor record on terrorism at UNSC

- Put initial holds on listing of Hafiz Saeed and Zaki Ur Rahman Lakhvi before finally relenting, over the past decade
- Blocked Masood Azhar's listing from 2008-2010 and 2016-2019 before withdrawing objections after Pulwama attack in May 2019
- Places hold on designation of Saeed's brother-in-law Abdur Makki in June 2022, valid till December

China's stance

In response to a question from *The Hindu*, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said China had "strictly followed rules and procedures of the committee", and that the government required "more time to assess the information to sanction the individual".

This is the second time China has blocked an India-U.S. listing proposal at the UNSC in the past two months, after China placed a similar hold on the listing of Abdur Rahman Makki, deputy chief of the Lashkar-e-Taiba/ Jamaat-ud-Dawa (LeT/JuD).

'Double standards'

"China's actions expose its doublespeak and double standards when it comes to the international community's shared battle against terrorism," said government sources in response, akin to a similarly angry response to the hold on Makki's designation in June. The sources pointed out that both Makki and Asghar had been placed on terror lists in the United States and India and called China's actions "politically motivated" in favour of Pakistan-based terrorists, and undermine the "entire sanctity of the working methods of the UNSC sanctions committee".

China's decision is likely to further strain ties between New Delhi and Beijing, which have been in a military stand-off at the Line of Actual Control since April 2020, and comes despite signs of a diplomatic thaw, after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of a G-20 meeting in Bali, and Chinese Special Envoy on Afghan Affairs Yue Xiaoyong travelled to Delhi for talks with his Indian counterpart J.P. Singh last week.

Ministry of External Affairs officials declined to comment on whether the government had requested China to support the listing, although sources said the MEA officials discussed the proposal during the UN coordination talks with a number of countries recently, and that 14 of the 15 UNSC members had supported the proposal on Thursday.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 14

RELATED REPORT ▸ PAGE 14

Karnataka High Court sets aside creation of ACB

In a setback to govt., HC restores power of Lokayukta police

KRISHNAPRASAD
BENGALURU

In a major setback to the State government, the High Court of Karnataka on Thursday set aside the constitution of a separate Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), under the direct control of the Chief Minister, in 2016 by withdrawing the powers vested with the Karnataka Lokayukta (KL) police wing to probe all cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against public servants.

"The State government is not justified in constituting the ACB by an executive government order, dated March 14, 2016 exercising its executive power under Article 162 of the Constitution of India when the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984 has occupied the field to eradicate corruption in the State...," the court observed.

While declaring that the ACB stood abolished with immediate effect, the court restored the power to investigate the corruption cases in Karnataka to the KL police wing as it existed prior to the creation of ACB. The court also made it clear that all pending inquiries, investigations, and cases being prosecuted by ACB got transferred to the KL police wing for further action as per the law.

The State government is not justified in constituting the ACB by an executive government order, dated March 14, 2016 exercising its executive power under Article 162 of the Constitution of India when the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984 has occupied the field to eradicate corruption in the State.

A Division Bench, comprising Justice B. Veerappa and Justice K.S. Hemalekha, delivered the judgment on three separate PIL petitions filed by Chidananda Urs B.G., the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru, and Samaja Parivarthana Samudaya, an NGO, and a batch of petitions filed by public servants questioning the powers of the ACB.

'CM is supreme'

"On careful perusal of the impugned executive order, it also clearly depicts that Chief Minister is supreme and absolutely there is no independent application of mind by the State government as it was issued merely based on the recommendation made by the Director-General and Inspector-General of Police (DG&IGP)," the Bench observed.

Except stating that the government had realised the necessity of a strong and effective vigilance system in addition to Lokayukta, no other reason had been assigned for creating ACB as a parallel to the institution of Lokayukta, the Bench pointed out. It is not the case of the government that either the KL police wing was ineffective in implementing Prevention of Corruption Act or the Lokayukta or the Upalokayukta had expressed difficulty to take the burden of Prevention of Corruption Act, the Bench said.

Who will act against CM?

While noticing that the Karnataka Lokayukta Act had provisions to probe corruption cases against the Chief Minister, Ministers, and members of the legislature, the Bench pointed out that it was not forthcoming in the executive order as to who was the authority to take action, in case the Chief Minister, a Minister, a member of the State legislature, etc., were involved in corruption and favouritism.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

RELATED REPORTS ▸ PAGE 10

Militants target Army camp, 4 jawans killed

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Two 'fidayeen' militants and four soldiers were killed during a pre-dawn bid by the militants to storm an Army camp in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday.

"In the early hours of August 11, alert sentries of the Army post at Parghal, Rajouri, detected suspicious persons approaching their post. The sentries challenged the two terrorists who threw grenade while attempting to enter the post," Defence spokesman Lt. Colonel Devender Anand said.

"In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists were neutralised," Lt. Col. Anand said.

The deceased soldiers are Subedar Rajendra Prasad from Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu, Rifleman Lakshmanan D. from T.N.'s Madurai, Rifleman Manoj Kumar from Haryana's Faridabad and Rifleman Nishant Malik from Haryana's Hisar.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 14

Dhankhar sworn in as V-P

Inspired & motivated to be ever in service of Bharat, he says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Jagdeep Dhankhar was sworn in as the 14th Vice-President of India at a brief oath-taking ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Thursday.

President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Mr. Dhankhar, 71, who took the oath in Hindi in the name of God.

"*Bahut bahut badhai* (many congratulations)," President Murmu said after Mr. Dhankhar signed the register of oath. Before his swearing-in, the Election Commission's certification of election issued to Mr. Dhankhar was read out.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former President Ram Nath Kovind, Mr. Dhankhar's predecessor M. Venkaiah Naidu, former Vice-President M. Hamid Ansari and Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Nitin Gadkari, Sarbananda Sonowal and Smriti Irani were among those present on the occasion.

In the morning, after visiting the Raj Ghat, Mahatma Gandhi's memorial, Mr. Dhankhar tweeted: "Felt blessed, inspired and motivated to be ever in service of Bharat in serene sublimity of Raj Ghat while paying respects to pujya Bapu".

Known for his highly visible tenure as West Bengal Governor with his frequent run-ins with the ruling party Trinamool Congress, Mr. Dhankhar was elected as the Vice-President on August 6 after he secured 528 votes against the Opposition's joint candidate Margaret Alva who got only 182 votes.

His long legal career at the Supreme Court and the Rajasthan High Court and a brief stint as a Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs in the Chandrashekhar government will help him preside over the proceedings of Rajya Sabha as its Chairman.

Mr. Dhankhar, who had been associated with the Janata Dal and the Congress, joined the BJP only in 2008 after a gap of almost 10 years. He has championed issues related to Other Backward Classes, including the grant of OBC status to the Jat community in Rajasthan.

New role: President Droupadi Murmu greeting Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Thursday. • PTI

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SC not in favour of derecognising political parties over freebies

Derecognition of parties is undemocratic: CJI

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to consider the question of derecognising political parties who promise freebies.

"Derecognition of parties is an undemocratic thing... I will not go into all that," Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, heading a Bench, orally observed. The court was considering the question of reining in the practice of parties offering "irrational freebies" to the electorate if they are voted to power, especially in States which are already drowning in debt. But the court said 'freebies' were different from the welfare schemes of the government. It said carefree promises and distribution of freebies by political parties and actual government welfare schemes were as different as chalk and cheese. One leads to sheer loss to the national economy while the other feeds the poor in drought-ridden areas and distributes care during COVID-19, the Supreme Court said.

Senior advocate Vikas Singh, for petitioner Ashwini Upadhyay, said the States had ₹15 lakh crore debt. "Public money should not be misused by parties whose only intention is to gain power," Mr. Singh said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 14

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Unemployed youth

73 In million, the expected global number of unemployed youths in 2022, down two million from the year before, according to the United Nations. However, the figure is still six million higher than the pre-pandemic level of 2019, with the recovery in youth unemployment lagging behind the bounceback in other age groups, the International Labour Organization (ILO) said. Between 2019 and 2020, those aged 15 to 24 experienced a much higher percentage loss in employment than the rest of the labour market. AFP

Iron ore price surges

4,100 In ₹ per tonne, the cost of lump ore fixed by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), hiking the prices by ₹200 a tonne. The price of fines is fixed at ₹2,910, an increase of ₹100 per tonne. In its last price revision announced on July 12, the NMDC had slashed the prices of lump ore and fines by ₹500 per tonne. Iron ore is a key raw material used in the manufacturing of steel, and movement in the prices of the mineral directly impact the rates of steel. PTI

Assistance for Nepal

15 In ₹ billion, the amount China has pledged in grant assistance to Nepal. "The two foreign Ministers took stock of overall aspects of Nepal-China relations and agreed to promote further cooperation in various sectors, including trade, connectivity, investment, health, tourism, poverty alleviation, agriculture, disaster management, education, culture, and people-to-people exchanges among others," the Nepal Foreign Ministry said. Foreign Minister Narayan Khadka was visiting China at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi. PTI

Owning digital currency

7.3 The percentage of Indian population that owns digital currency, the seventh highest in the world, according to the UN, which said that the use of cryptocurrency rose globally at an unprecedented rate during the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN trade and development body UNCTAD said that in 2021, developing countries accounted for 15 of the top 20 economies when it came to the share of population that owns cryptocurrencies. Ukraine topped the list with 12.7%. PTI

Drought in Somalia

1 In million, the number of people displaced by drought in Somalia, leaving the country in the shadow of famine, according to the United Nations. More than 7,55,000 people have fled their homes but remain within the country's borders, while others have fled abroad, the UN refugee agency UNHCR and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) said. Somalia and its neighbours in the Horn of Africa including Ethiopia and Kenya are gripped by the worst drought in more than 40 years after four failed rainy seasons that have decimated crops and livestock. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

What is the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022?

How is the recent legislation different from the earlier Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920? What are the main concerns and oppositions against the Act?

THE GIST

- The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022 provides legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for "taking measurements of convicts and other persons for the purposes of identification and investigation of criminal matters". It came into effect from August 4.
- Over the years, the need to amend/update the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 has been voiced several times. In 1980, the 87th Report of the Law Commission of India undertook a review of this legislation and recommended several amendments.
- Multiple concerns have been raised about the new law. One of the main concerns is that unlike the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920, the current law allows for "measurements" to be taken if a person has been convicted/arrested for any offence, including petty offences. The necessity of taking measurements of such persons for investigation of offences is unclear and will probably lead to overburdening of systems used for collection and storage of these "measurements".

TRISHEE GOYAL

The story so far: The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022 provides legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for "taking measurements of convicts and other persons for the purposes of identification and investigation of criminal matters". While the legislation was enacted earlier this year, the Ministry of Home Affairs notified it to come into effect from August 4, 2022. It also repeals the existing Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920.

What is the use of identification details in criminal trials?
Measurements and photographs for identification have three main purposes. First, to establish the identity of the culprit against the person being arrested, second, to identify suspected repetition of similar offences by the same person and third, to establish a previous conviction.

What was the previous Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920?
Even though the police has powers of arrest, mere arrest does not give them the right to search a person. The police requires legal sanction to search the person and collect evidence. These legal sanctions are designed so as to maintain a balance between the rights of an individual and the interests of society in prosecution and prevention of offences.

A comparision between the two Identification Acts

The previous Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 and the freshly notified Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022 have similarities as well as major differences. A quick look at how "measurements" of convicts and arrested persons will be collected from now on

Relevant provisions	Identification of Prisoners Act	Criminal Procedure Identification Act
Persons whose measurements can be taken	should be convicted of an offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment of one year or upwards	if convicted of an offence punishable under any law
	should be arrested for an offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment of one year or upwards	if arrested for an offence punishable under any law or if detained under preventive detention laws
	if directed by the Magistrate for measurements to be taken for the purposes of investigation of proceedings under the CrPC, provided the person has been arrested in connection with such investigation previously	if directed by the Magistrate for measurements to be taken for the purposes of investigation of proceedings under the CrPC or any other law in force; there is no requirement for the person to have been arrested in connection with such proceedings previously
	ordered to give security for his good behaviour under CrPC	ordered to give security for his good behaviour under CrPC
Measurements that can be taken	finger impressions, foot impressions, measurements and photographs	finger-impressions, palm-print impressions, foot-print impressions, photographs; iris and retina scan; physical, biological samples and their analysis; behavioural attributes including signatures, handwriting or any other examination referred to in section 53 or section 53A of the CrPC, 1973
Destruction of measurements	in case of acquittal, discharge or release, if not previously convicted of any offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment of one year or upwards	in case of acquittal, discharge or release, if not previously convicted of any offence punishable with rigorous imprisonment for any term. For convicts, records are to be destroyed from 75 years of collection

The legislation comes in the backdrop of the right to privacy being recognised as a fundamental right. A fundamental facet of the right to privacy is protection from the invasion of one's physical privacy

The Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 became a necessity when the recording of newer forms of evidence such as fingerprints, footprints and measurements started becoming more accurate and reliable.

The Statement of Objectives and Reasons of the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 states that "the value of the scientific use of finger impressions and photographs as agents in the detection of crime and identification of criminals is well known". It further goes on to state that although lack of legal sanction has not created problems before, there were increasing instances of prisoners refusing to allow their fingerprints or photographs to be recorded. Therefore, "to prevent such refusals in the future ...[and] to place the taking of measurements etc which is a normal incident of police work in India, as elsewhere, on a regular footing" it was considered necessary to enact the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920.

What was the need to replace this Act?
Over the years, the need to amend/update the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 has been voiced several times. In 1980, the 87th Report of the Law Commission of India undertook a review of this legislation and recommended several amendments. This was done in the backdrop of the *State of UP vs Ram Babu Misra* case, where the Supreme Court had highlighted the need for amending this law. The first set of recommendations laid out the need to amend the Act to expand the scope of measurements to include "palm impressions", "specimen of signature or writing" and "specimen of voice". The second set of recommendations raised the need of allowing measurements to be taken for proceedings other than those under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

The Law Commission Report also notes that the need for an amendment is reflected by the numerous amendments made to the Act by several States. The Minister of Home Affairs, while laying the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022, in the Lok Sabha, observed that with advancements in forensics, there was a need to recognise more kinds of "measurements" that can be used by law enforcement agencies for investigation.

What are the main highlights and differences in both the legislations?
Like the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920, the new Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022 provides for legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for the collection of measurements. The purpose is to create a useable database of these measurements. While at the State level, each State is required to notify an appropriate agency to collect and preserve this database of measurements, at the national level, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the designated agency to manage, process, share and disseminate the records collected at the State level.

What are some of the concerns with the present legislation?
Since the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 was a colonial legislation, its duplication in the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022, a post-independence legislation has raised some concerns related to the protection of fundamental rights.

The legislation comes in the backdrop of the right to privacy being recognised as a fundamental right. A fundamental facet of the right to privacy is protection from the invasion of one's physical privacy. As per the *Puttaswamy* judgment, for a privacy intrusive measure to be constitutional, there is a need for the measure to be taken in pursuance of a legitimate aim of the state, be backed by the law and be "necessary and proportionate" to the aim being sought to be achieved. In this case, while the first two tests are satisfied, as "prevention and investigation of crime" is a legitimate aim of the state and "measurements" are being taken under a valid legislation, the satisfaction of the third test of necessity and proportionality has been challenged on multiple counts.

First, while the need for expansion of the "measurements" that can be taken is well justified, the inclusion of derivative data such as "analysis" and "behavioural attributes" have raised concerns that data processing may go beyond recording of core "measurements". That is some of these measurements could be processed for predictive policing. While this is a legitimate concern, and purposes for which the "measurements" can be processed need to be better defined, merely recording core measurements without conducting the required forensics on them would severely limit the usability of these "measurements".

Second, unlike the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920 which provided that "measurements" will be taken for those either convicted or arrested for offences that entail imprisonment of one year or upwards, the current law allows for "measurements" to be taken if a person has been convicted/arrested for any offence, including petty offences. The necessity of taking measurements of such persons for investigation of offences is unclear, and such discretion is likely to result in abuse of the law at lower levels and overburdening of the systems used for collection and storage of these "measurements". Given that these records will be stored for 75 years from the time of collection, the law has been criticised as being disproportionate.

It needs to be noted here that the new legislation allows that a person who has been arrested for an offence that is punishable by less than seven years of imprisonment, and is not an offence against women and children, "may not be obliged to allow taking of his biological samples". This is definitely an improvement over the earlier law which did not allow for any such refusal. It also helps allay concerns of disproportionate collection. However, given the option to not submit for "measurements" is limited to biological samples and is available at the discretion of the police officer, this exception provides restricted relief.

Another worry expressed by experts is that such collection can also result in mass surveillance, with the database under this law being combined with other databases such as those of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).

Lastly, concerns are being raised that the present law violates the right against self-incrimination enshrined in Article 20(3) of the Constitution of India. However, this argument is nebulous since the Supreme Court has already settled this point. In the *State of Bombay vs Kathi Kalu Oghad*, the Supreme Court had conclusively held that "non-communicative" evidence i.e. evidence which does not convey information within the personal knowledge of the accused cannot be understood to be leading to self-incrimination. Therefore, no challenge lies to the law on this ground.

What is the way ahead?
The Opposition has raised objections to a law of such import not being submitted for public consultation or referred to parliamentary standing committees, as was done for the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2019 which has benefited from such scrutiny.

The Central government has responded to the criticisms of the law stating that privacy and data protection related concerns will be addressed in the Rules formulated under the legislation and through model Prison Manuals that States can refer to.

The immediate future of this law is unclear. A writ petition has been filed challenging the constitutionality of the law before the Delhi High Court. The court has issued notice to the Central government for filing a reply.

Trishee Goyal is a research fellow at the Centre for Applied Law and Technology Research, Vidhi Centre for legal policy

At 25, BMTC to offer free bus rides on Independence Day

Commuters will be able to travel on all types of buses on that day

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The city's bus service corporation will reach a milestone on Independence Day: 25 years ago, on August 15, 1997, the then Bangalore Transport Service (BTS), which was a part of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), turned into a corporation and was named Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC).

To celebrate the silver jubilee, the corporation has decided to give free bus services on Independence Day. People will be able to travel on all types of buses.

Officials of the BMTC have requested the general public to experience the city bus service, especially those who have been using private vehicles for commuting. "The corporation has achieved this milestone because of the patronage by Bengalureans. To mark the special occasion, we will provide free bus services on all the routes operated by BMTC. We want people of all age groups, including children, to experience the services," said G. Sathyavathi, MD, BMTC. on Thursday. On August 15, the corporation will run scheduled services of 5,700 buses.

On August 15, the corporation will run scheduled services of 5,700 buses. • FILE PHOTO

More e-buses to hit roads

The BMTC will also run more electric buses under FAME-2 schemes (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India). Of the 300 e-buses, 75 will hit the road from August 14. The non-AC 12-meter bus with more than 40 seating capacity has a wheelchair ramp with the lifting facility for the benefit of wheel-chair bound passengers.

The BMTC has decided to run these buses on long routes in the city limits.

Surya Sen A.V., director (IT), BMTC, said that 75 buses will be operated from Yelahanka depot and the required infrastructure is already in place. "This is the first time the corporation is introducing buses with wheelchair facilities. We plan to run buses from Yelahanka to Majestic, Yelahanka to Central Silk Board, and other routes. We have already received 100 buses, and the rest will be introduced in a phased manner."

The BMTC is presently running nine-meter e-buses under the Smart City Project. A total of 90 buses are being operated from three depots.

As employee welfare measures, the corporation has decided to felicitate accident free drivers by presenting gold and silver medals. A total of 168 drivers will be presented with gold medals, and 2,968 with silver medals. BMTC is presenting the medals after a long gap.

Namma Metro to issue paper tickets for three days

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In view of the flower show at Lalbagh, Namma Metro will issue return journey paper tickets for the convenience of the travelling public for three days from August 13.

Metro fares from Lalbagh Metro Station to any metro station on these days will be a flat ₹30 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The paper tickets will be valid for the day of purchase only and for a single trip only from Lalbagh station to any other station.

These tickets will be available for purchase on August 13, 14, and 15 at all the metro stations from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. However, at Lalbagh station, the paper tickets will be available up to 8 p.m. Commuters have to produce the paper tickets for the entry at Lalbagh station and submit the same at the destination station. Onward journey from any station to Lalbagh metro station will be by means of tokens and smart cards at normal fares.

Shivananda Circle flyover may miss I-Day inauguration deadline

Asphalting work on the stretch hit owing to the recent rains

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Uncertainty continues to loom over the inauguration of the steel flyover at Shivananda Circle by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Earlier, the civic body decided to open the flyover on August 15, but after the recent rains, asphalting work on the stretch has not been completed, said senior BBMP officials.

"We had decided to open the flyover to the public on Independence Day, but have not been able to finish asphalting of the stretch owing to the rains. We need clear weather to complete the work. Starting Friday, we will start the asphalting work and will try to complete it soon," the official added.

After building the skeleton of the flyover, BBMP ran into land acquisition problems, grounding the project. It had to acquire 500 sq.m of land towards the Seshadripuram railway underpass and this ran into legal challenges. Days before the project was to be completed in November 2021, BBMP opted for the design change to make do with the available land.

The flyover project at Shivananda Circle in Bengaluru was conceived in 2011. • FILE PHOTO

The flyover project was conceived in 2011 and the State Cabinet approved ₹19.8 crore in 2017. Later, the project cost shot up to ₹39.5 crore as the earlier planned 326-metre long flyover had to be extended to 492.84 metres.

If everything is done on time, the civic body plans to get Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to inaugurate the flyover. Now, BBMP is also asphalting the service road under the flyover where the construction work is completed.

"The road needs to be repaired on both sides of the flyover. Most of the work is done and we will enable public use in a phased manner without causing inconvenience to the motorists," a BBMP official said.

READ MORE IN-DEPTH CONTENT AT THE HINDU'S WEBSITE
www.thehindu.com

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (August 12, Friday), the following explainers are available:

- **In the limelight** Changing portrayals bit.ly/portrayals
- **Explained |** What is the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022? bit.ly/crimidenti

Online exclusives

- **Data Point podcast** Understanding the U.S.'s gun violence epidemic bit.ly/USgunspod
- **In Focus podcast** Understanding the trajectory of interest rates bit.ly/RBIRates
- **Sci-Five |** The Hindu Science Quiz: on natural disasters bit.ly/QuakesQuiz
- *You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.*

'Dip in air pollution during lockdown makes a case for flexible work policy'

Greenpeace India studies air quality and mobility patterns

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A comparative study of air quality and mobility patterns before, during and after the COVID-19 lockdowns (2020) in Bengaluru and their correlation with hybrid work systems in the city revealed that during the lockdown period (May 2020), a drastic 60% decrease in traffic density was observed, with corresponding decline in AQI to 61 from 95 (in pre-lockdown months).

Post-lockdown (October 2020), there was a 35% increase in traffic movement owing to restrictions being eased and onset of the festive season. Greenpeace India's report, Flexicity, which intended to analyse the contribution of vehicular emissions to Bengaluru's air quality and recommend mitigatory measures in the form of flexible, hybrid work systems, also showed that vehicular emissions to be one of the significant contributors of air pollution (PM10) in Bengaluru.

Air Quality Index

Months	AQI
February-March	95
May	61
October	63

Using data from the Google Community Mobility Report, the report identifies five primary traffic congestion points within the city for the comparative analysis of traffic data across the three time periods. The five roads identified within the municipal boundary of Bengaluru Urban were MG Road, Silk Board Junction, BTM Layout, Bapuji Nagar, and Tin Factory. These points accommodate more than 500 IT services and BPO companies in their vicinity, a Greenpeace release pointed out.

"The findings make a strong case for these corporations to execute long-term hybrid, or flexible work policies, which are found to have a direct correlation with reduced vehicular emissions," the release added.

the city's AQI levels also show a steady increase in the post-lockdown period reaching pre-lockdown pollution levels over the months of October to December 2020.

The study observes high traffic movement during the pre-lockdown period (February to March 2020), which is close to the average traffic congestion levels in the city (established as the baseline). The improvement in air quality during the lockdown period is attributed to the sudden halting of various economic activities across the city. However, in the absence of major industrial clusters within city limits, the report considers vehicu-

Noted singer Shivamogga Subbanna passes away

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

National award-winning Sugama Sangeetha singer Shivamogga Subbanna passed away here on Thursday night following a cardiac arrest. He was 83.

Mr. Subbanna became popular with the rendering of songs written by Jnanpith Award-winning Kannada writer Kuvempu. He became a household name in Karnataka after he sang *Baarisu Kannada Dindimava*, written by Kuvempu. He received a national award for the song *Kaadu Kudure Odi Banditta* in the film *Kaadu Kudure*. He was the first Kannada playback singer to get a national award. He was an advocate and a notary. He is survived by wife, son, and daughter S. Bageshree, who is Resident Editor of *The Hindu*, Karnataka.

Convocation ceremony held

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

As many as 600 students from 2020, 2021, and 2022 batches received their graduation medals at the 12th convocation programme of Rajarajeshwari Medical College and Hospital on Wednesday.

Pradeep Eshwarappgoolu and Gurujala Spoorthi received gold medals for securing 1st rank in PG under Rajiv Gandhi Health Sciences University Karnataka, and Harshitha, Rohini, and Pranathi received gold medals in UG.

Manipur Governor La. Ganeshan delivered the graduation day address and presented medals to the graduates. In his address, Mr. Ganeshan called upon the medical students to join hands in rendering service to villages.

Founder Chancellor of Rajarajeshwari Medical College and Hospital, S.C Shanmugum, called upon those who have studied and graduated from the college to work at the national and international level and to actively participate in alumni groups.

Two held for stealing 11 bikes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Yelahanka police on Thursday arrested two persons and recovered 11 bikes worth ₹6 lakh from them.

Mubarak Pasha, 20, from R.T. Nagar, and Mahesh, 27, from Yelahanka, used to move around residential areas to identify bikes parked outside houses and steal them by breaking locks. They would sell the bikes at throwaway prices without documents.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forest, BBMP, Annexe Building - 03, Room No. 5, N.R.Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

NO. DCF/TENDER/03/2022-23 DATE : 09.08.2022

CORRIGENDUM-I

Tender Notification No: DCF/TENDER/03/2022-23 Dated: 09.08.2022 was published in this newspaper on 11.08.2022, The works mentioned in **Bommanahalli Zone, Sl. No. 1, Block No. 1**, The Work Value should be read as **Rs. 78,00,000/-** instead of **Rs. 7,80,000/-**

Sd/- Deputy Conservator of Forest, BBMP.

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12563/CALL-2 Date: 06.07.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited in two cover system through e-procurement portal for the work of **Providing & Installation of Two Nos. of refrigerant type air dryer with Two Nos. MS vertical receiver tank with connected valve and compressor ducting system at Unit # 2 CHP compressor house at BTPS. Total tender amount: Rs. 26.84 Lakhs.** Pre-bid meeting: **18.08.2022 at 11.00 Hrs.** Last date and time for submission of both Technical and Financial bids: **22.08.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid: **23.08.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (AHP)-1**, BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini-583152, Bellary (Dist). Mobile: +91 94482 90768.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is informed that my client **Smt. T. Devamma w/o late N. Srikantaiah**, residing at #285, 3rd Cross, 9th Main, Hanumanthnagar, Bengaluru-19, has lost the original registered sale deed, dated 27/01/1971, document No.5046/1970-71, Book No.1, Volume no.855, at pages 22 to 24, and original registered General Power of Attorney (GPA) dated 27/01/1971 document no.98/1970-71, of Book No.4, Volume No.3, at Pages 245 to 246, **pertaining to property mentioned in schedule herein**, lost while travelling in BMTC Bus on 25/07/2022. My client has lodged a police complaint vide Lost **Report No.0280428/2022 and 0289114/2022.** So far the aforesaid sale deed and GPA is not traced. The finder of the said original sale deed and GPA may kindly contact the undersigned advocate within **15 days** from date of publication and will be suitable rewarded by my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Land in **Survey No.11/1** previously Survey No.11/1measuring **1 acre 23 ½ gunata, and 1 acre 30 guntas**, situated at **Kaggalipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore,** bounded on:
East by : Government Lake
West by : Land Belongs to Hanumanthappa
North by : Land belongs to Thimmaiah
South by : Property belongs to Smt Papakka

Prashanth B.K, Advocate,
No.17, Sir M V 2nd Cross, Kalkere Main Road, Ramamurthynagar
Bengaluru-560016 M : 09900056401
Bengaluru Date : 12-08-2022

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-procurement system)

Tenders in electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" were invited on behalf of Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited, Bangalore by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.2, Tumkur in Two cover system from eligible contractors for the work of Shifting Of 11 Kv Electrical Pole, Providing And Installation Of Ug Cable From Ch: 244.350 Km To 249.150 Km Under Gravity Canal, Package-24 Of Yettinahole Project The amount put to tender is **Rs.62.05 Lakhs.** the tender can be viewed from dt: **12.08.2022** through e-procurement. Details such as submission of bids/tender conditions/Pre-qualification criteria/ Calender of events and other information related to above works can be obtained through e-portal i.e www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Intending bidder can access the tender document through e-portal. The authority competent to accept the tenders shall have the right of rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender. Corrigendum/addendum will be published in the e-portal. Any further information required may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP Division, No.2,Tumkur. Ph: 08162201844, e-mail: eeypd2tmk@gmail.com

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, VIJAYANAGAR DISTRICT, HOSAPETE-583201
Telephone:08392-295655 Email: dmfvjnagar@gmail.com
ಸಂ.ಜಿ.ಗ.ನಿ/ಡಿ.ಎಂ.ಎಫ್/102/2022–23 Dated: 10.08.2022
Indent No:RD/2022-23/IND01355

TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCRUMENT ONLY)

The Deputy Commissioner and President District Mineral Foundation Trust, Vijayanagara District Hosapete Invited The Tender for the Procurement of Students Desks to all PU Colleges in the Vijayanagara District, Hosapete, with two cover system through E- Procurement from eligible manufactures/ Authorised agencies/ Eligible contractors. Approximate value of work excluding GST Rs. 54,54,520.00 and EMD amount Rs. 1,09,090.00

Calendar of the events: 01. DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF SALE OF TENDER DOCUMENT: **11.08.2022.** 02. SEEKING QUERIES OR CLARIFICATIONS AND PRE-BID MEETING ALONG WITH SAMPLE OF THE PROPOSED ITEM: **20.08.2022. at 11:00 AM.** 03. LAST DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF TENDERS: **25.08.2022 at 16:00 hrs.** 04. TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BID : **26.08.2022 at 16:00 hrs.** 05. TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF FINANCIAL BID : **29.08.200 at 11:00 hrs.**

For further details log in https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in and if any clarifications please contact EE mob: 9449855668 and Special Officer mob: 8105773324 DMFT DC office Vijayanagara District.

Sd/- The Deputy Commissioner and President, DMFT, Vijayanagara District Hosapete
DIPR/Hospet/91/MCA/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client intends to purchase immovable property bearing Site No. 3, Khata No.801/3 measuring 3100 sq. feet formed in Survey No. 337/4, measuring 3 Acres 02 Guntas situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as "**Schedule Property**" from Dr. Jagadish Hegde, son of Lokashwar Devaru Hegde and Dr. Jayathi K.J, wife of Dr. Jagadish Hegde.

Any person having any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or having any objection to the purchase must notify the undersigned with documentary proof thereof, within **seven (7) days** from the date of this publication, failing which it shall be deemed that no person has any objection to our client purchasing the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of an immovable property bearing Site No. 3, Khata No.801/3 measuring 3100 sq. feet formed in Survey No. 337/4, measuring 3 Acres 02 Guntas situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore (converted for residential purposes vide Official Memorandum dated 28.09.2005 bearing No. B.DIS.ALN.SR (S): 24/2005-06 and bounded as follows: **East by:** Site No.1 & 2; **West by:** Site No.4; **North by:** 40 feet road; and **South by:** Layout compound.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 10.08.2022

Issued by:
Abhijit Atur,
M/S AGRAA LEGAL
2nd floor, No. 19, Shivashankara plaza, Lalbagh road, Richmond circle, Bangalore - 560 027

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
(Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURAGI-585105
Phone No: 08472-278634 Email:eerwssglb14@gmail.com

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2021-22/1073 Dated : 10-08-2022

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for drinking water works from eligible civil contractor detailed as below

The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site http://eporc.karnataka.gov.in and should be submitted through E-procurment system only

1) Name of work : Afzalapur Taluka-03 (Indent No 44812, 44811 & 44877) Aland Taluka-05 (Indent No 44815, 44818, 44816, 44817 & 44813) Kalaburagi Taluka -04 (Indent No 44875, 44874,44873 & 44872) Jewargi Taluka-02 (Indent No 44876 & 34839 call-2) Sedam Taluka-04 (Indent No 44871, 44870, 44869 & 44868) Chincholi-03 (Indent No 44821, 44820 & 44819), 2) Head of A/C : JJM 2022-23, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class-II & above, 4) Tender Amount: Min 1,02,53,000/- Max 1,99,80,000/-, 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: 12-08-2022 11:00am, 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per E-portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: 26-08-2022 4.00pm, 8) Pre Bid meeting date: 18-08-2022 at 11.00am, 9) Opening of Techincal Bid : 27-08-2022 11:00am, 10) Opening of Financial Bid: 29-08-2022 11:00am, 11) Address for any clarification reg.tender: Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi

DIP/Kalaburagi/492/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR.
I.F.T.No:EE/PWD/VJP/PB/8443/2022-23/2320 Dated:10.08.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (E-procurement)

The- **Executive Engineer, Public Works Dept. Division, Vijayapur** Invites tenders from eligible tenderers for Development of Greenfield Airport for ATR 72 for Day VFR Operation at Vijayapur in Karnataka State (Package-2) Providing Avionics and Security Equipments works. (including airfield Ground lighting and External Area lighting). (Indent No. 142516) work as per standard bid documents KW-4 with 8443-Deposit Contribution head of **account costing of amount for Rs. 1612.70 Lakhs respectively. Time allowed for completion of work is 11 months including mansoon. The EMD amount of Rs.16,12,700.00.** For above work G.S.T amount will be paid to the Contractor separately and Increase in G.S.T shall not be paid in the extended period of Contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time. The calendar events of tenders, dates are fixed as follows **1)** The Pre-Bid Meeting for Contractors **Date-06.09.2022 @ 11.00 AM. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders **Date-15.09.2022 upto 4.30 PM. 3)** Opening of Technical Bid **Date-17.09.2022 at 11.00 AM. 4)** Opening of Financial Bid **Date-19.09.2022** at 11.00 AM. Clause-3 Conditions of Standard Bid Document may be seen in Departmental Website i.e "eproc.karnataka.gov.in" and for more information may contact help desk Bangalore (Phone No. 918025501216 & 918025501227) or office of the undersigned.

DIPR/VIJAYAPUR/360/MCA/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Vijayapur

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಛೇರಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ(ಛೇರಿ):0821-2446887 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ (ಛೇರಿ): 0821-2440828

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಕವಪ್ರಾ/ಮುಕಾಸಿ/ಸಿವಿಲ್/ದ.ವ.ಪ್ರ-2022/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.08.2022

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ "ಇ" ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ: (ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಮೈಸೂರಿನ ದೊಡ್ಡಕೆರೆ ಮೈದಾನದ ಅವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.09.2022 ರಿಂದ 24.12.2022ರವರೆಗೆ ಒಟ್ಟು 90 ದಿನಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ 2022ರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿಖ್ಯಾತ ಮೈಸೂರು ದಸರಾ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನವನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಮುಖ್ಯದ್ವಾರದ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಶುಲ್ಕ ವಸೂಲಾತಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ವಾಹನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣ ಶುಲ್ಕ ವಸೂಲಾತಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, "ಎ" ಬ್ಲಾಕ್ ಮಾಳಿಗೆ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ತಿಂಡಿ-ತಿನಿಸು ಮಾರಾಟ, ಕೆರೆದ ನಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿ ಪಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ವಸೂಲಾತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು, ಮನೋರಂಜನಾ ಪಾರ್ಕ್, ಸೈಕ್ಲಾಕ್ ಮೋನೋ ರೈಲು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ದೋಣಿ ವಿಹಾರ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಪಾಪಿರಾತಿ ಈವೆಂಟ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದು. ಹೀಗೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಐಟಂಗಳನ್ನು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಏಕಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ನೀಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸದೃಢತೆಯುಳ್ಳ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ "ಇ" ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು "ಇ" ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ರೋಡ್ ಮಾಡುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **10.08.2022**ರ 16–00 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ, 2) ಪ್ರೀ–ಬಿಡ್ ಮೀಟಿಂಗ್ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20.08.2022**ರ ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11–30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **05.09.2022** ರಂದು 16–00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, 4) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **07.09.2022** ರಂದು 16–05 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು 5) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **09.09.2022** ರಂದು 16–05 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದಲ್ಲಿ) ಸಮಯವನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಹಾಗೂ
ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಧಿಯಂತರರು(ಸಿವಿಲ್)
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/360/2022-23

THE HINDU
Text & Context

A still from recently released *Darlings*.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Changing portrayals

The representation of Muslim characters has increased in popular cinema where, their religious identity is not always a matter of friction

THE GIST

- After Partition, for a long, long time, Muslim superstars resisted playing Muslim characters. Shah Rukh Khan played a Muslim character only when the story dealt with the Muslimness of the protagonist like in *My Name is Khan*. Interestingly it was Salman Khan who broke the shackles when he played *Sultan* (2016), a Muslim wrestler from Haryana in the Yash Raj film.
- Hindi cinema's horror tales have largely been drawn from Christian and Hindu myths. The Islamic idea of Satan has hardly found space in the Indian market. Of late, there has been a shift with *Pari* and then *Ghoul*.
- The protagonists in Zoya Akhtar's *Gully Boy* and Saeed Mirza's *Salim Langde Pe Mat Ro* deal with the haunt most families in slum areas experience without their Muslimness adding to this dehumanising existence.

ANUJ KUMAR

Since the Bharatiya Janata Party came to power in 2014, Muslims have been increasingly feeling marginalised in Indian polity.

The party has not found even a single Muslim who could win them a seat in legislative bodies and its leaders constantly dog whistle the community. They identify them through their clothes, their food habits and they have been accused of receiving a disproportionate share from the largesse of the public distribution system without repaying in terms of vote.

However, around the same time, the representation of Muslim characters has increased in popular cinema where their religious identity is not always a matter of friction. And, in the polarised atmosphere, directors are weaving symbols of communal amity in their parables.

Representing 'Muslimness'

After Partition, for a long, long time, Muslim superstars resisted playing Muslim characters. Dilip Kumar played only one Muslim character in his entire career. Shah Rukh Khan also played a Muslim character only when the story dealt with the Muslimness of the protagonist like in *Chak De!* and *My Name is Khan*. Interestingly, Salman Khan, who usually doesn't get much credit for his craft, broke the shackles when he played *Sultan* (2016), a Muslim wrestler from Haryana in the Yash Raj film. Sultan Ali Khan could easily have been Suraj and it would not have made a difference to the story. Sultan doesn't wear his religion on his sleeve and the story doesn't delve into the religious identity of the character or his ladylove Aarfa Hussain, a wrestler who is equally hard to pin down on the mat.

Interestingly, a year before *Sultan*, Salman played the son of a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Pracharak in *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* who takes a Pakistani child to her home with the help of a Pakistani journalist.

An antidote to *Gadar: Ek Prem Katha* (2001) kind of divisive and reactionary narratives, it was an interesting clash of ideas that germinated from how the differences are usually more about perception than reality. Bajrangi is surprised when a genial cleric, played by Om Puri, wishes him Jai Shri Ram.

History and horror

Around the same time, Sanjay Leela Bhansali mounted *Bajirao Mastani*, a counterpoint to Ashutosh Gowarikar's *Jodhaa Akbar* (2008). Historicals in Hindi cinema are more allegorical than fact-based. In *Mughal-e-Azam*, Akbar and Salim represented the endless fight between monarchical control and free speech. Before the end credits roll in *Jodhaa Akbar*, Amitabh Bachchan's voice tells us that Jodhaa and Akbar represent the idea of India. Bhansali turned it around as Peshwa Bajirao Ballal, a thorn in the flesh of Mughals, fought with his family to provide his Muslim muse Mastani her dignified place in the royal chambers. In Bhansali's idea of India, the ruler is a compassionate Hindu ruler.

Like the historical genre, horror also thrives on allegories. For a long time, Hindi cinema's horror tales have largely been drawn from Christian and Hindu myths. The Islamic idea of Satan has hardly found space in the mumbo jumbo that is served to the Indian market. Of late, there has been a shift. In 2018, first *Pari*, and then *Ghoul* (miniseries) brought this neglected 'other' from the afterlife to a more mainstream space. Both looked beyond the usual tropes of the genre to delve into our social fears, making them all the more tangible and disturbing.

Pari is about Rukhsana, a daughter of Ifrit (a deadly spirit), falling in love with a Bengali boy Arnab and teaching him a lesson or two in humanity along the way.

Ghoul, drawn from an Arabic folk tale, has a distinct layer of Islamophobia tucked inside a dystopian tale. Set in a 'nationalist' universe where words like pavitra (purity) and wapsi (return) are deliberately slipped into conversations, *Ghoul* follows Nida Rahim, a bright young recruit working with the armed forces, who turns over her father as she suspects him to be involved in seditious activities. However, as the obedient officer reaches the interrogation centre or the hell in the context of the genre, she discovers that a sword of suspicion hangs over her as well.

After a point, it becomes hard to decide whom to fear more: the men and women in uniform or the ghoul in the skin of the alleged terrorist.

Beyond the Muslim

The same year, *Kedarnath* tackled the love story of a Brahmin girl with a Muslim mule operator against the backdrop of flash floods that ravaged the pilgrimage centre in 2013. Using the love story as a metaphor for communal amity, the film says if the two are not allowed to live together in peace, nature will intervene. Zoya Akhtar's *Gully Boy* (2019) ran with the baton passed by Sultan into the lanes of Mumbai's Dharavi. In a tense scene, Murad's father, a car driver, played by Vijay Raaz, tells his son they are not expected to dream. They are expected to keep their gaze lowered but Murad wants to look the world in the eye.

The social background of Murad is not much different from Saeed Mirza's Salim in *Salim Langde Pe Mat Ro* (1989). Both claim that their time will come but while Salim gets drawn into the underworld, Murad channels his angst into his stinging rap songs. Again, the issues – polygamy, girl education, employment opportunities – that the film deals with haunt most families in slum areas and the Muslim character is just a part of this dehumanising existence.

Mee Raqsam (2020), the story of Maryam who wants to learn Bharatanatyam, broke new ground as it talked of Muslim claims on the shared and composite cultural legacy. When some community leaders question her choice, Maryam's father tells her daughter it is a question of living life on her own terms. In a way, this is also the crux of *Darlings*, released last week. The story of Badrunissa and Hamza tackles domestic abuse where Badru's mother Shamshu stands by her daughter. However, like Bajrangi, the police officer in *Darlings* doesn't know much about Muslims. He compares Nissa to Nisha and describes the nuqta in Urdu as a massa (mole).

Are we the same people who could easily sing *Zehale Miskin Makun-ba Ranjish Ba-Haal-e-Hijraan Bechaara Dil Hai, Sunnaaee Detee Hai Jiskee Dhadkan, Tumhaara Dil Yaa Hamaaraa Dil Hai* (*Ghulami*, 1985) (Do not look at the condition of the poor miserable me with anger, as my poor heart is in a state of separation from my beloved; The (one) heart whose beats are audible, is it yours or mine?)?

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"What's the meaning of 'He is trying to paint the lily' sir?"

"It means that 'he is trying in vain to improve what is already excellent or perfect'. You cannot make the lily more beautiful by embellishing it. If it is done, its natural beauty will be either hidden or spoiled. This expression was first used by Shakespeare in *King John*:

To gild refined gold, to paint the lily.
To throw a perfume on the violet
To smooth the ice, or add another hue
Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light
To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish,
Is wasteful, and ridiculous excess. (IV, II)

To paint the lily' is 'wasteful and ridiculous excess'. The expression 'gild the lily' is more frequently used these days than 'paint the lily'. Both mean the same."

"Who is a die-hard, sir?

"A die-hard is one who will stick to his opinion or opinions at all costs. Die-hards resist change and innovation. Die-hards are really those who die hard!

He is a die-hard conservative.

It is believed that 'die-hard' had its origin in the Battle of Albuera fought in 1811 when the 57th Regiment of the British Army fought valiantly to hold on to its position. Colonel Inglis of the Regiment urged his men to fight without flinching. When he was wounded he refused to be taken off the field and kept on shouting, "Die-hard, men, die hard'. The courage and determination of the 57th Regiment earned them the nick-name 'The Die Hards' and the Regiment is known by that name even today. The expression 'die-hard' was first used in 1844."

"Sir, what's the meaning of 'I care a straw for him'?"

"It is not 'I care a straw for him'. It is 'I don't care a straw for him'. It means that 'I don't care for him at all'. Other idioms with more or less the same meaning are:

I don't care a damn for him.
I don't care a fig for him.
I don't care a jot for him.
I don't care a straw for his opinion.

All these are used in informal contexts."

"What's the difference between 'advice' and 'advise', sir?"

" 'Advice' is a noun. 'Advise' is a verb.

I want your advice.
No amount of advice is going to change him.
I advised him to apply for the job.
He advised me to see the doctor.

Well, it is getting late. It's advisable to stop here. Goodbye."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye.

THE DAILY QUIZ

August 12 is annually observed as World Elephant Day. A quiz on the largest existing land mammal

1 Of the two closest extant relatives to the elephant, one is the sirenians (dugongs and manatees). Name the other.

2 One of the stand-out features of an elephant is the trunk. Looking at the appendage, how can one determine if it is an African or Asian elephant?

3 Which type of teeth are tusks a modified form of and what is the common term for the dentine?

4 What are the traditional Indian terms for the seat used for riding on the back of an elephant and the person who 'drives' the big animal?

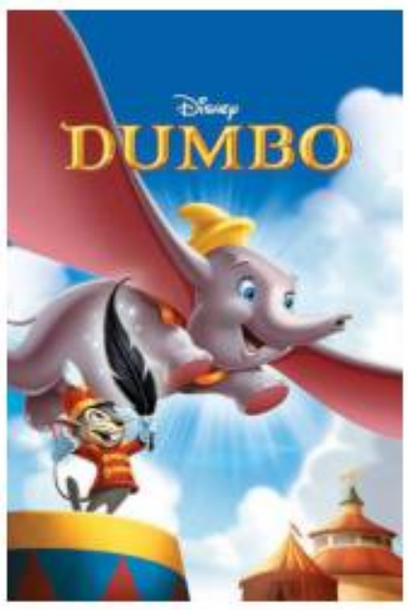
5 Elephants have the longest gestation period of any living mammal. For how long are elephant cows normally pregnant?

6 Name the Carthaginian commander who is known for crossing the Alps from Spain into Italy with 37 (including one Asian) elephants.

7 There are at least 32 Elephant reserves across more than 14 States. Where was the first such reserve set up in 2001?

8 The biggest Hindi box office hit of 1971 was a film starring Rajesh Khanna who had four elephants Ramu, Shamu, Mahesh and Suresh for company. Name the flick.

9 What is special about the YouTube video 'Me at the zoo' that features elephants from the San Diego Zoo?



◄ Which famous elephant once part of P.T. Barnum's circus was the inspiration for this loveable character?

Compiled by: V.V. Ramanan

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The 44th Chess Olympiad Open champion, Uzbekistan featured these two teenagers. **Ans: Nodirbek Abdusattarov, Javokhir Sindarov**
2. This British player and commentator finished with the highest tournament ELO rating points (2,898). **Ans: David Howell**
3. This former child prodigy won one of the individual bronze medals, playing on Board four or the India-1 women's team. **Ans: Tania Sachdev**
4. This young Indian player scored 8.5 points in 11 rounds and became the seventh Indian player to cross the super GM ELO threshold of 2,700. **Ans: Arjun Erigaisi**
5. Apart from D. Gukesh, only one other Indian player won a gold for individual performance (on Board two). **Ans: Nihal Sarin**
Visual: Identify this Woman International Master who had the best individual performance in the women's tournament. **Ans: Oliwia Kiolbasa**

Early Birds: Rupali Chaudhari| Imtiaz Ahmed| Piyush Supekar| Haroon Rashid

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

CCB recovers 512 mobile phones

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) officials on Thursday busted an inter-State mobile phone snatching racket and arrested two persons who were part of the eight-member gang. Mubarak Pasha, 27, from Padarayanapura, and his associate Ajaz, 40, from Shivajinagar, robbed mobile phones from people in and around the city and sold them in Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Delhi through their contacts, the police said, adding that the accused are habitual offenders.

The CCB formed a special team led by DCP S.D. Sharanappa and Inspector Hazrath KIledar to track down the accused.

Fraudster misuses techie's KYC details to avail loans

Took loans worth ₹22 lakh from 4 banks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The south division cybercrime police are on the lookout for a fraudster, who is on the run after taking personal loan from four banks using the KYC details of a city-based software engineer in May.

The incident came to light on May 24 when the 40-year-old techie (name withheld on request), a resident of Arakere Mico layout received a call from the fraud Investigation team of his bank informing him about a person availing loan using his PAN and Aadhaar details.

The bank official asked him to check his CIBIL score. On doing so, the techie realised that the fraudster had availed loans worth over ₹22 lakh from four different banks using his details. Officials are trying to track down the accused in Kolkata using transaction details.

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Food delivery executive beaten up by customer over dues

He was pushed down the stairs from the third floor when he asked for the remaining amount of the bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 50-year-old food delivery executive was allegedly beaten up and pushed down the stairs from the third floor when he asked for the remaining amount of the bill from a customer.

Girish A.K. sustained multiple injuries and was treated at the hospital before he filed a complaint with the Amruthahalli police on Tuesday. The police registered a case of assault and criminal intimidation and efforts are on to track down the accused, Nagarjun Reddy, who is on the run. Girish works for a restaurant in Bhuvaneshwarinagar in Amruthahalli as delivery executive, from where Nagarjun had ordered chicken biryani and a soft drink. Though Nagarjun paid online for the biryani, he did not pay for the beverage, following which the cashier asked Girish to collect the cash after delivery.

Girish went to Nagarjun's apartment on Dasarahalli Main Road to collect the remaining amount for his order. Nagarjun, however, abused him, the complaint said.

Efforts are on to track Reddy, a police officer said.

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Timings
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FRIDAY, AUG. 12	
RISE	06:07 SET 18:42
RISE	19:16 SET 06:09
SATURDAY, AUG. 13	
RISE	06:07 SET 18:42
RISE	20:04 SET 07:11
SUNDAY, AUG. 14	
RISE	06:07 SET 18:41
RISE	20:47 SET 08:09

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	29	21
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm is likely.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain or thundershower may occur.

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II PU supplementary exam from today

BENGALURU

The Department of Pre-University Education will conduct II PU supplementary examinations from August 12 in 307 centres across the State. On Friday, Kannada and Arabic language exams will be held and a total of 1,85,449 students have enrolled for it.

Govt. directs AC to hoist tricolour at Idgah Maidan

'All precautionary steps will be taken to maintain peace'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to hoist the national flag and celebrate Independence Day at Idgah Maidan in Chamarajpet in Bengaluru on Monday.

Revenue Minister R. Ashok on Thursday said the department has issued an order directing the Assistant Commissioner (AC) of Bengaluru North to hoist the flag. "Everyone can participate in the event" organised by the government and only elected representatives would be allowed to share the dais. No shouting of religious slogans would be allowed, Mr. Ashok told reporters at a press conference here.

Asked about Chamarajpet MLA B.Z. Zameer Khan's plan to hoist the tricolour on Independence Day, Mr. Ashok said no one had approached him and given him petition on hoisting the flag.

Police keep vigil on Idgah Maidan in Bengaluru. • FILE PHOTO

"So far, I have not received any application seeking permission for hoisting the national flag on this ground," he said.

Maintaining peace and communal harmony was the top priority of the government and all precautionary steps would be taken to maintain peace, the Minister said. "Let us celebrate the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in a grand manner," he said.

The Minister said the Revenue Department was the owner of the Idgah Maidan and it would decide on allowing any kind of activities, including Ganesha festival, on August 31. The department will consider all the aspects and take an appropriate decision in consultation with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Mr. Ashok said.

Groups associated with the right-wing ideology have welcomed the government's decision.

Sri Ram Sena files complaint against MLA

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Right-wing organisation Sri Ram Sena filed a complaint against Chamarajpet Congress MLA Zameer Ahmed Khan on Thursday.

Sena Bengaluru president Chandrasekhar R. filed the plaint alleging that Mr. Khan was trying to instigate communal tension by preventing Hindus from celebrating Ganesha festival at Idgah Maidan in Chamarajpet. The BBMP recently announced that the maidan belonged to the Revenue Department. The right-wing groups had submitted a letter to the Bengaluru Urban District Commissioner on Wednesday seeking permission to celebrate Independence Day at the Maidan.

Revenue Minister R. Ashok had said if anyone wants to celebrate an event at the Maidan, they have to take permission from the Bengaluru DC. Earlier Mr. Khan, had said the national flag will be hoisted at the Idgah Maidan.

14,871 of 24,308 children brought back to school, govt. tells HC

'Officials making efforts to track 5,724 children'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government on Thursday told the High Court of Karnataka that 18,584 children have been tracked of the total 24,308 children, belonging to the age group of 6 to 14, who had either dropped out of school or never enrolled.

Of the 18,584 children, 14,871 had been admitted to schools as on August 1, 2022, according to a status report submitted before a Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty.

Senior advocate and amicus curiae K.N. Phaneendra, in his status report, pointed out that officials of various departments were making efforts to track the remaining 5,724 children to ensure that they are brought back to the school in compliance with the mandate of the Right of Children for Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

FROM THE COURT

A survey of children aged between 0 and 18, conducted by the local authorities in Karnataka, had found that 10.12 lakh children aged 0 to 16, including 9.87 lakh in the age group of 0-6, had not enrolled in anganwadis/schools.

The survey also found that 14,963 children in the age group of 6 to 14 had dropped out and 9,345 children had never enrolled. It had identified a total of 66,68,262 children in the age group of 0 to 18 in the State.

- A survey had found that 10.12 lakh children aged 0 to 16 had not enrolled in anganwadis/schools.

The amicus cuiae also said that the Chief Secretary, who presided over the meeting of a high-powered committee overseeing the issue of out-of-school children, had instructed the officials to take immediate steps to ensure that 5,33,206 children in the age group of 3 to 6 identified in the survey enrol in an anganwadi.

It was informed in the meeting that take-home ration was being provided to the parents of 4,54,238 children in the age group of 0-3 as these children are not enrolled in anganwadis.

The court has been monitoring the issue of out-of-school children since 2013 by *suo motu* initiating a PIL petition. Further hearing on the petition has been adjourned till November.

The unseen women freedom fighters

Karnataka Rajya Mahila Dourjanya Virodhi tours city singing songs, telling stories

JAHNAVI T.R.
BENGALURU

When a British revenue officer assembled at their village to forcefully collect tax, the women of Shinganamakki village near Ankola ensured that he found nothing to eat or drink an entire day, to teach him a lesson. When he wanted to make his own tea, they hid the tea leaves, utensils, and sugar. This was their way of mutiny against the British administration.

Like them, thousands of lesser known women from the State were a part of the freedom struggle.

To create awareness about such women, the Karnataka Rajya Mahila Dourjanya Virodhi Okkoota is touring the city, educating people about them since August 1.

The campaign, which is being taken up on the occasion of 75 years of independence, is being supported by other local communities. Two programmes earlier this week were supported by street vendors' associations in Vijayanagar and Shivajinagar, while Wednesday's programme in RT Nagar was supported by the transgender community. The women go to market places or educational institutions and other open spaces with banners and the national flag and sing songs, narrate stories of the women freedom fighters, and read the preamble of the constitution aloud. The stories of all categories of women freedom fighters irrespective of caste, class, and religion have been included in the campaign.

Members of Karnataka Rajya Mahila Dourjanya Virodhi Okkoota holding an awareness campaign at Shivajinagar on Monday. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

"These women were a part of various freedom movements like the Quit India Movement, Salt Satyagraha, Swadeshi movement, and many other for which Mahatma Gandhi had called for. They were present in every corner of the movement and these are very interesting stories. Normally, we only remember a few famous freedom fighters and even history speaks about them. Hence, with this campaign, we are trying to tell the stories of the unseen women to the next generations," said Du Saraswati, writer and one of the leaders of the campaign.

The group has also visited colleges in Basavanagudi and Malleswaram to spread awareness.

The Okkoota has also released a document which traces the stories of women freedom fighters from the country with special focus on women from Karnataka. A meeting will be conducted at SEM Hall on August 15 where discussions will take place around the topic of "social freedom" and future of the country and also an exhibition of pictures and paintings.

Tales of freedom struggle by the veterans

PRERANA KULKARNI
BENGALURU

"I did some unthinkable things in order to revolt against the British," recalled 101-year-old freedom fighter H. Nagabhushana Rao.

He is one of the oldest freedom fighters alive in the State and is also amongst those who were recently identified by the government to be honoured on the occasion of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

In conversation with *The Hindu*, three freedom fighters shared some interesting stories, ranging from cutting off communication wires to their days in jails.

Mr. Rao mentioned that he joined the freedom movement when he was in high school and said he cut telegram wires, destroyed post boxes, dug up roads, among many other things to cut off communication between British officials. He also said that he stopped people from entering offices, colleges, and factories by laying on the doorways and asking people to step on him if they had to go in. Freedom to him "is the authority and governance over one's own self". He is known to be extremely disciplined and helpful amongst his family and friends and he does not hesitate to stand up against what is wrong even to this day.

Freedom fighters H. Nagabhushan Rao, C.B. Shankaranarayana Rao, and R. Narayanappa. • PRERANA KULKARNI

Halasuru-born R. Narayanappa, 97, remembered the impact the freedom struggle had on him as a young child. He said that at the age of 13, he joined his friends and played a significant role in the riot that broke out in Avenue Road against the British rule. He also helped boycott foreign goods in his school and college. He joined the Royal Indian Navy after completing his education. He spoke about how Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha had a significant influence.

Upon his return from the navy, he joined the State Bank of Mysore (SBM) from where he soon quit, to answer the various calls for freedom which were being raised around him. He joined the "Quit India" movement and became a full-fledged freedom fighter. He took part in riots in Chikkaballapura's Viduraswatta.

Like him, C.B Shakaranarayana Rao, 91, extended his support for the freedom movement from the early years of his childhood. He said that he was inspired by his father, who was a war veteran and was ordered to serve two years in World War II. He mainly took part in the boycott British movement. He studied in Sahyadri College, Shivamogga, where he actively took part in the demand for a responsible government in 1947, for which he was put behind bars for a month at the age of 18.

Student gives up exam on Sunny Leone's birthday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A first year B.A. student of Bangalore University gave up answering his first semester history examination for the birthday of actor Sunny Leone. This came to light at the time of evaluation on Thursday.

The university conducted the undergraduate (UG) examinations in May and June. The history examination was held in May. The university has digitised the evaluation system, and when the evaluator logged in to the system, he was shocked to see one particular answer sheet.

Instead of answering the questions, the student scratched out the answer of the first question and answered the second question: "Today is actress Sunny Leone's birthday. She is my lover and due to her birthday, I am not writing this exam today."

He also requested his friends and others to wish her. He left the rest of the paper blank.

THE HINDU
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Hospital care for elderly, those with comorbidities recommended

First 11 days of August have already seen 30 deaths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

With an increase in COVID deaths in Karnataka, the State's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has recommended that senior citizens and those with comorbidities should seek hospital care and not opt for home isolation.

Following the TAC's recommendation, the Health Department will soon issue an advisory in this regard. Most of the deaths are among senior citizens and those with comorbidities, the TAC noted. While 29 deaths were recorded in June, the first 11 days of August have already seen 30 deaths. Six and 10 deaths were recorded in May and June, respectively.

Minister K. Sudhakar said that people are under the impression that COVID infection is now a flu-like illness. • FILE PHOTO

Briefing mediapersons after the TAC meeting here on Thursday, Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar said people have become complacent and are under the impression that COVID infection is now a minor flu-like illness. "Most try self medication and avoid seeking medical advice. But it is advisable that senior citizens and those with comorbidities seek hospital care. We will soon issue an advisory in this regard," he said.

Pointing out that as many as five teenagers have also succumbed to COVID since July, the Minister said that a comprehensive death audit is being conducted. "We should find out why these teenagers died, whether they were vaccinated or did they have any comorbidities? An audit is essential to prevent such deaths in the coming days," he said.

Expressing concern over the poor progress of precaution dose vaccination, the Minister said: "Despite a rise in COVID cases, people are not very enthusiastic about taking precaution dose and so far only 17% of the eligible population has been covered."

He said not taking the precaution dose even when it is available free of cost for everyone amounts to negligence. "We as responsible citizens should get the booster shot to enhance immunity. Youth should take the responsibility of getting their families vaccinated," he said.

Referring to the rising test positivity rate (TPR) in the State, the Minister said the TPR is higher than the State average of 7.2% in Dharwad, Shivamogga, Bagalkot, Ballari and Bengaluru Urban. "We are currently conducting 30,000 tests daily and as per the Centre's guidelines only those who are symptomatic are being tested. Even in case of primary contacts, only those who are symptomatic are being tested," he said.

Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar on Thursday warned hospitals of action under the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Act if they refuse COVID treatment to anyone.

Pointing out that there were complaints against a few private hospitals refusing treatment to COVID-19 patients, the Minister said: "No hospital can deny treatment to COVID patients. Every hospital should have isolation wards. I have received complaints that a few hospitals are refusing treatment. This is not just inhumane but also illegal. Strict action will be taken under the KPME and Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act."

TAC to guide govt. on other diseases too

State sees rise in vector-borne diseases

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

In the wake of a rise in vector-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, malaria and Influenza 'A' H1N1 , the State has now sought the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) guidance in tackling these diseases too.

Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar told presspersons on Thursday that entomologists and microbiologists will also be included in the TAC for this. Due to heavy rains and floods in the State, the incidence of dengue has increased from 1,266 cases in 2021 to 4,405 this year so far. Similarly, chikungunya cases have also increased from 454 in 2021 to 978 this year, while H1N1 cases have gone up from 3 last year to 345 this year. This could probably be due to increased testing this year, he said. The Minister said that most cases were detected in the BBMP areas within Bengaluru Urban, Mysuru, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada and Hassan districts.

Monkeypox

Pointing out that the TAC took a comprehensive view of the prevailing monkeypox situation in the country, the Minister said: "So far, a total of nine cases - five in Kerala and four in Delhi - have been detected. As of now, no case has been reported in Karnataka. Surveillance has been stepped up in the border districts."

Karnataka reports 1,691 new cases, six deaths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka on Thursday recorded 1,691 new infections taking the total number of cases to 40,26,085. With this the day's TPR stood at 6.09% and the weekly TPR touched 6.28%. Of the new cases, 1,225 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban.

With six deaths, the State's toll touched 40,134. Besides, 42 deaths of patients due to non-COVID-19 reasons have also been recorded.

As many as 1,982 persons were discharged on Thursday taking the total recoveries to 39,75,855. Active cases stood at 10,054 on Thursday.

As many as 27,725 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, including 18,532 RT-PCR tests.

Revisiting the bond

Children tie rakhi on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan in Bengaluru on Thursday. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

Man posing as acting CJ dupes High Court PRO

He makes away with ₹90,000

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The cybercrime police are on the lookout for a conman who, posing as the acting Chief Justice, cheated the Public Relations officer of the High Court and made away with ₹90,000 transferred to his account through Amazon gift hampers.

Based on the complaint filed by K. Muralidhar, the cybercrime police on Saturday registered a case against an unknown person charging him impersonation, cheating, and under various sections of the IT Act.

Mr. Muralidhar said the accused, using the picture of the acting CJ in his display picture, sent him a message on his official mobile number asking him to buy Amazon gift vouchers.

Nine gift vouchers

Assuming that the message is from the CJ, Mr. Muralidhar purchased nine gift vouchers online, each priced ₹10,000, from his and his friend's account to the number.

The cybercrime police are now trying to track down the accused based on the mobile number he used and where the money was transferred.

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ALLEN Result : JEE (Main) 2022

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Classroom

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ASHISH AHUJA
Distance

AIR 31
VISHAL BYSANI
Classroom

AIR 32
ARPIT ANIL AGRAWAL
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Classroom

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VARDAN VERMA
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AIR 38
KAVYA GUPTA
Classroom

AIR 39
AKSHAT C. PANDEY
Classroom

AIR 40
SHARVIL PATEL
Classroom

AIR 41
SAARTH SINGLA
Classroom

AIR 43
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Classroom

AIR 46
VAASU SINGLA
Classroom

AIR 49
AKSHAD R. MHASKE
Classroom

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ADITYAAJEY
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Classroom

AIR 60
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Classroom

AIR 61
JALADHI JOSHI
Distance

AIR 73
SOMYA BANSAL
Classroom

AIR 81
ABHINEET AGARWAL
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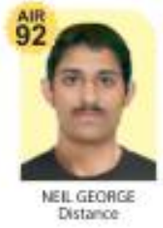
SAMYAK JAIN
Classroom

AIR 89
ZEEL GABANI
Classroom

AIR 90
SOUMIL BANSAL
Classroom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Distance

AIR 95
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ALLEN Bengaluru : JEE Main Result

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Classroom

AIR 148
TEJAS SHARMA
Classroom

AIR 171
RAJEEV RANGARAJAN B
Classroom

AIR 212
AARAV GIRI
Classroom

AIR 445
SAAGAR K V
Classroom

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client **MR. K. V. NARASIMHA REDDY**, S/o. Mr. K. Lakshmi Narasimha Reddy, residing at No.53(405) Multi Diamond Apartments, 6th Main, 11th Cross, Near Bhadrappa Layout Signal, Balaji Layout, Bangalore-560 064, is intended & agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from **MR. LOKESH**, S/o. Late. Chandra Shekar, residing at No.79, Jatti Palya, Magadi Main Road, Near Government School, Thavarekere, Channeshahalli, Bangalore-562130, as such intended to enter into registered Absolute Sale Deed with respect to Schedule Property.

Any person/s asserting any rights, title, interest or claims in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner, against the owner or having any objections over the Schedule Property should write to the under signed within **FIFTEEN days** of the issuance of this Public Notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regards to the Schedule Property or any part thereof, after which period our clients shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the Purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of Agriculture Land bearing **Sy No.32/1**, measuring to an extent of **2 Acre 05 Guntas** excluding **01 Guntas Karab**, situated at **Honnavara Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District** and bounded on:-

East By : Road; West By : Land belongs to Mr. Gangaiah; North By : Land belongs to Mr. Byranna; South By : Land belongs to Smt. Yeshodhamma.

Murthy. J
M.J. Law Associates, Advocates,
No.2, First Floor, Chickkanna Complex, Kattigenahalli Bus Stop, Bangalore-64. Mob No. : 8901900508.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client, **Smt. VEENA.S Wife Of Sri. Yadiyurappa**, Aged about 37 years, Residing at No. 38, (Previously40) Kodigehalli,Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Bangalore-560091 is the present owner of the Schedule Property has been misplaced/ lost the Original Sale Deed executed by Vasanthi Represented by Sri. Thopaiah, in favour of Previous Owner of the Schedule Property, Sri. C.S.Siddaiah on 19-08-2009 through a registered Sale Deed registered as document No. LAG-1-01559-2009-10 of Book-I, Stored in CD No. LAGD-47, registered in the office of the sub registrar of Laggere, Bangalore, and Smt. Veena.S has filed a Complaint before the Karnataka State Police Department Vide Complaint No(Sakala) PO0125220002516 dated 10-08-2022.

Any person/s holding/finding/or in possession of the original above mentioned Sale deed of the Schedule Property or if any person has impersonated himself and has created unregistered equitable mortgage through DTD in favour of any person/Bank/Financial Institution or through any other mode of conveyance or method of conveyance such as General Power of Attorney or Sale agreement/Deed, Gift or either through Mortgage or any other claim or through any other deed of conveyance if any, may write to the Undersigned if they have any claim on the Original document/s in/on any manner what so ever within **Seven days (7 days)** from the date of this publication and any objections, claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of an immovable property bearing 111 (One Hundreden Eleven) of Khatha No. 76 Assessment No.76 situated at **Byadarahalli, Herohalli Dhakale, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** Presently comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP Property bearing No. 111, Situated at Balaji Layout BBMP Ward No. 72, measuring East to West: 40-00(Forty)ft., North to South 35-00(Thirty)ft., totally measuring 1200 sq.ft., consisting of Ground Floor, First Floor and Second Floor 25 squares R.C.C. Roofed House together with Civic amenities and bounded on:

East by : Road,
West by : Property bearing No.106,
North by : Property bearing No.110,
South by : Property bearing No.112

L. LAKSHMINARAYANA, B.Com., LLB., **Advocate,** #1462/33, Pipe Line, Vijayanagar BANGALORE - 560 040.

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela

(Distt. - Saran), Bihar 841221

E-Tender Notice No. 06/RWP/Engg./ 2022-23/WT/(Open) Date:-08.08.2022

The Dy. CE/RWP/Bela for and on behalf of the President of India, invites Online **"e-Open Tender"** through Indian Railways E-Procurement Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in** for the following works as detailed:- **Name of the work and Location, Approximate cost, Earnest money and Completion period of the work : Tender No.- 24_RWP_Engg_22_23_WT_Open. Name of Work:-** Renovation of spectro lab to accommodate rooms in adjacent to facilitate lab requirement, creation of reeling room for staff of melt, mould & other section on 1st floor of existing reeling area opposite melt shop and repair of damaged outing space of SPC Bay sand/earth filling etc at RWP/Bela. **Approximate cost:-** Rs.68,09,633/-. **Tender form Cost:-** Nil. **Earnest money:-** Rs.1,36,200/-. **Completion period of the work :-** 06 Months. **2. Tender closing date and time :** 09.09.2022 upto 12:30 Hrs. **3. Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of tender can be obtained and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. :** The above tender can be submitted only by the date and time as mentioned in the notice. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in.** The prospective firms/ bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with IREPS Portal (**www.irpes.gov.in**) for updates including Addendum/Corrigendum / Cancellation with respect to the above tender because no such any notice/information concerned that shall be published in newspaper.

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Rail Wheel Plant, Bela
RWP/CPRO/Advt/2022-23/50

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BANGALORE
(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956
AND IN THE MATTER OF
ATIC DATA SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED
COMPANY PETITION NO. 172OF 2016

BETWEEN: M/s. Karan Sharma enterprises, No. 11, Sadarmangala Industrial Area, Whitefield Road, Opp.ITPL, Bengaluru - 560048. Represented by its Managing Partner Mr. Neeraj A Sharma .... **Petitioner**

AND: AticData Systems Private Limited, No.60, 'ATIC' House, 8th Main, G.M.Palya, Off Bagmane Tech Park, New Thippasandra Post, Bengaluru - 560075 ... **Respondent**

Advertisement of petition

Notice is hereby given that a petition Section 433(e) and 433(f)Read with Section 434 and 439(1) of the Indian Companies Act, 1956, seeking winding up of the Respondent Company for its inability to pay its debts was presented by Petitioner on 20th day of July 2016 and the said petition was heard before The Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Principal Bench at Bangalore.

Any person, creditor contributory or other person desirous of supporting or opposing the petition should send to the Petitioner's Advocate, Notice of his intention, signed by him or his Advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the Petitioner's Advocate not later than 5 days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition i.e. **8th day of Sep 2022** and appear before the court in person or through his Advocate. A copy of the petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same. Any affidavit intended to be used in opposition to the petition should be filed in Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Principal Bench at Bangalore and copy served on the petitioner or his Advocate not less than five (5) days before the date fixed for the hearing.

Given under my Hand and the seal of this court, that is the 21stday of July 2022.

By order of the Hon'ble Court, Assistant Registrar, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Advocate for Petitioner:
M.JAGADEESH, Advocate
Tapas Law, C-208, 2nd Floor, Blue Cross Chambers, No.11, Infantry Road Cross, Bengaluru-560 001. M:98455 20455.
jagadeesh@tapaslaw.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public/s and parties to the case are hereby informed that the below mentioned advocate has been appointed as court commissioner to conduct public auction by conducting spot sale on 30-08-2022 at about 11 AM, at schedule property i.e property No.305 (old) New No.39, measuring 45x35 totally measuring 1350 with structure square feet situated at 1st Main Road, 4th Block Rajajinagar, Bengaluru, which is mentioned as schedule property as per the order of the Hon'ble Court of dated 13-07-2022 and fixed court sale on 06-09-2022 at 11 am in the Court of City Civil Judge at Bangalore (CCH-10) at 11. 0' Clock, the court has fixed a sum of **Rs.2,00,00,000/- (Rupees Two crore only)** as reserved value for the auction of the schedule property subject to auction sale. Accordingly, I hereby calling upon to the General public including the petitioners i.e the above case to participate in the public auction **on 30-08-2022 at 11 0' clock** at schedule premises and bid the property above the reserve value fixed by the court as stated above and further successive bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount with court commissioner on the same day or on the next day and further successive bidder shall pay the balance bid amount within the time fixed by the court after court sale.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property No.305 (old) New No.39 measuring East to West 45 feet and North to South 35 totally measuring 1350 with structure situated at 1st Main Road, 4th Block Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560010, bounded as follows: **East by:** Site No.308, **West by** : Road, **North by:** Site No.305, **South by :** Site No.304.

Address of Court commissioner
SRI. P. M. GOPI, Advocate
Mylaraiah and Associates, No.23, Ground Floor, Suraj Sadan apartment 2nd Cross Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-09 Contact Mob. No: 9845290386.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that we are investigating the right, title, interest, benefits, entitlements of whatsoever nature of the respective owners of the Survey Numbers, as mentioned herein below; all are situated at, Solur Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, which is more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter called **"Schedule Property"**.

ALL persons including an individual anybody under law, having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of said Property or any part or portion thereof are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned having their office at No.115/58, 1st Floor, 2nd Main Road, 6th Cross, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560 018 within a period of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **Survey No. 162**, measuring **05 Acres 05 Guntas,** situated at Soluru Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, and bounded as follows:

East by : Sy. No.201
West by: Sy. No.164
North by: Sy.No.78 and Vishwanathapura Village Boundary
South by : Sy. No.163 and 200

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **Survey No. 201**, measuring **06 Acres 10 Guntas**, situated at Soluru Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, and bounded as follows:

East by : Sy. No.202
West by : Sy.No.162
North by : Vishwanathapura Village Boundary
South by : Sy. No.200 and Sy.No. 202

Sd/-
Mr. Madhusudhana H.R. Advocate,
No.115/58, 1st Floor, 2nd Main Road, 6th Cross, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560 018. Phone: +91 98451 92477
Bangalore. Dated: 11.08.2022

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I Rajesh Kumar S/O Keerti Lal R/o 1044 sobha iris appartment outer ring road deverabisnahalli bellandur, Bangalore 560103 have Changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Chopra for all purposes

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LVIII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-59)
O.S. NO. 2567/2021

Between :
M/s. ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at : Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara-390007 and branch office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068 through its Authorised representative ....Plaintiff

And
Mr. Rama Krishna Gajula ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
Mr. Rama Krishna Gajula, S/o. Narasimha Rao, Aged about 35 Years, Residing at Flat No. 403, Pioneer Paradise, 7th Cross Road, Royal Lake Front Residency Phase 3, J.P. Nagar 9th Phase, Raghavandapalya, Bengaluru-560083.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs.11,97,422/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the LVIII Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H-59), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 20/10/22 at 11:00 A.M to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 28th day of July 2022 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court
Assistant Registrar,
Hon'ble City Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar, Vidhii Partners, Advocates, No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', #3 Queens Road, Bengaluru- 01.

IN THE COURT OF THE XXV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-23)
O.S. NO. 6280/2021

Between :
M/s. ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at : Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007 and branch office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068 through its Authorised representative

Mr. Rohith Ali M ....Plaintiff

And
Mr. Choudhury Abinash Jena ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
Mr. Choudhury Abinash Jena, S/o. Prasanta Kumar Jena, Aged about 30 Years, R/at Plot No. 302, A Block, Medplus Building, AECS Layout, Singasandra, Near Pepsi Godown, Bengaluru- 560100.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs. 6,84,354/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the XXV Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H-23), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 09/09/2022 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 4th day of August 2022 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court
Assistant Registrar,
Hon'ble City Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar, Vidhii Partners, Advocates, No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', #3 Queens Road, Bengaluru- 01.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MALLAPPA Akki S/o Sangappa, resident of No.328, Near Basavanna Temple, Bommasagar, Gadag-582211 today in Bangaluru have changed my name from Mallappa Akki to Mallappa Sangappa Akki vide affidavit dt: 11-08-2022 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bluru.

I, MOHD Aslam S/o Shaikh Sahab Ismail, R/o Flat No. G 1101, Salarpuria Sattva East Crest, Near Avalahali Police Station, Kondadaspura, Old Madras Road, Bengaluru-560049, have changed my name from Mohd Aslam to Mohammad Aslam vide affidavit dt:11-08-2022 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bluru.

WE, SAGAR C Makkini & Meghna S Makkini, R/a. No. 1068, 25th main, 15th cross, Banashankari 2nd stage, Bflore-70. We have changed our minor daughter's name From Iha Makkini to Aira Makkini Vide affidavit dtd: 09-08-2022. Sworn before notary: B S Geetha.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL MUNSIFF OF PALAKKAD
O.S. 511/2019

K.V. Sachidanandan,
S/o. Late K.N. Velayudhan,
Karukkampara House,
Kizhakkumpuram, Palakkad
— **Plaintiff**

Vs

1. Karthika, D/o. Late Jyothi, C/o. Balu Suresh, Canara Bank, Anathi, Karnataka - 573131
(2) Balu Suresh, S/o. Late Jyothi, Canara Bank, Khata No. 378 Gram Panchayath Building, Anathi, Karnataka - 573131
— **Defendants 11 and 12**

Notice to the defendants 11 and 12

Please take notice that the above suit filed for partition and injunction, stands posted for your appearance on 14.9.2022 at 11 A.M. If you fail to appear in person or through a pleader, you will be set exparte and the suit will be decided in your absence.

Dated this the 16th day of July 2022
(P. Sreenath Sankar)
Advocate, Palakkad)

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LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE COMMERCIAL DISPUTE DISTRICT JUDGE COURT, SALEM
C.O.S.No. 7 of 2022

M/s. Sai Krrisna Weavs (Firm)
Rep. by its Partner
Mr.Ra.Manikhandan,
41/18, Kuttai Kadu,
Erumapalayam Post,
Salem-636 015. Tamilnadu.
....Plaintiff

/ Versus /

Mr.Shivakumar,
Prop: M/s. Vibhu Clothing,
No. 138, 1st Main Road,
Kempegowda Layout,
Leggere, Bangalore-560053.
... Defendant

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT

Whereas the plaintiff's had instituted the above commercial original suit in C.O.S.No.7 of 2022 for recovery of money against you and the same is posted to 23.08.2022 for your appearance. Therefore you are hereby noticed to appear before the COMMERCIAL DISPUTE DISTRICT JUDGE COURT, HASTHAMPATTY, SALEM either in person or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the above recovery of money suit or who shall be accompanied by some person able to answer all such questions, **on the 23rd Day of August 2022 at 10-00 A.M.,** to answer the claim; and as the day fixed for your appearance in the said restore petition. Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the above recovery of money suit will be heard and determined in your absence. This summon had been issued as per the court order.

/ As per order of the court /

S.RAJKUMAR,B.A.,LL.B.,
Advocate,
717, Trichy Main Road,
Salem Gugai,
28-07-2022 Salem-636 006.

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SHRUTI SHARMA AIR-1 (UPSC-2021)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BE KNOWN TO ALL that my client **Harshita, D/o.Bharat,** intend to purchase the land bearing Sy No.106/5, measuring 0-29 guntas 0-02 guntas Karab, of Sulivara Village, Tavarekere Hobli, BSTO, which bounded on the **East by: land belongs to Nilamma, West by: land belongs to : Sri.S.M.Shivamurthy, North by: land belongs to Sri.S.P.Shivakumar, South by: Govt Pond and land belongs to Basavaraju,** from its owner **Sri.A.Mayanna, S/o.Ashwathappa.** If any person entity has any claim/objection in the matter of the intended sale of the said property or any part, thereof, such a person submit his/her claim/objection with documentary proof thereof to the undersigned in writing within **Ten (10) days** from the date of this notice, failing which it would be presumed that there is no claims/objections and our client shall proceed with the purchase of the said property from the owner.

K.V. PREMA KUMARI B.A.,L.L.B.
Advocate
(Roll No. KAR/943/2000, Dt: 07/04/2000)
No.25, D.M.Chambers, BEML Lyt, 3rd Stage, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560098

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client intends to purchase the property described in the Schedule hereunder from its lawful owner **Sri. Lalith Prakash**, son of Sri.Nain Chand, residing at No.1047, 11th Main, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru – 560040, who is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property.

Any person or persons other than the Vendor having any claim or interest in or to the Schedule Property, or any part thereof in any manner is/are required to forward their claim on or to the property to the undersigned at their office along with the relevant documents thereof, within **Fifteen days** from the date of publication of this notice in this newspaper. In the absence of any claims within the above said period, it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or that if there are any claims and they have not been made it shall be deemed to have been waived and our client will proceed with the transaction without any further reference in this regard.

SCHEDULE

Residential property bearing **Site No.2325** and **Municipal Corporation No.20**, situated at **3rd 'A' Main Road, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bengaluru**, BBMP Ward No.34 of RPC Layout, measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 62 feet together with the house constructed thereon and bounded by:

East : Site No.2324;
West : Site No. 2325/A;
North : Site No.2326;
South : Road.

REKHA R R, Partner
HJK LAW PARTNERS, Advocates
1038, 1st Floor, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar 4th Block, Bangalore-560 010
L: 080 23151715; Mob: 9845364814
Email: rekha@hjklawpartners.com
Place : Bengaluru, Date : 11.08.2011

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. REMYS_Gr.295_AT_CLS_LT_Modification Dated: 06.08.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

Name of Work	Appx. Cost
AT Power supply arrangement for Colour Light Signalling in the ASM room and in interlocked LC gates and TSS Switch yard lighting, TSS control building internal wiring and Modification Power Line crossing in between Birur (excl.) - Talaguppa (Incl.) section in Mysuru Division of South Western Railway in connection to the RE work of Gr-295).	Rs. 1,48,71,837.45/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 29.08.2022**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer - I
Railway Electrification / Mysuru

S.W.Railways | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No. BDA/EE/West Divn./TEN/Services/02/2022-23 Date: 08.08.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

(Through GoK e-Procurement platform https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

Tenders are invited through GoK e-Procurement platform for the following work in Two Cover tender procedure by the Executive Engineer, West Division, BDA, MRCR Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru on behalf of the Commissioner, BDA, Bengaluru from eligible tenderers.

Name of Assignment: **Consulting Services for Construction Supervision and Project Management and quality control for the work of Development and Improvements to Roads and Drains in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 7th Block of Sir M. Visvesvaraya Layout. Indent No.: BDA/EE/West/Divn./TEN/Services/02/2022-23.** Project Cost of Work: **Rs.9950.00 lakhs.** For further details, please log on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or call e-Procurement Helpdesk on 080-22371090/22340060.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, West Division, BDA, Bengaluru
BDA/PRO/TN/11/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.

(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/F-/22-23/4791-92 Date: 10.08.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-Procurement Mode)

1. KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No.KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/2021-22/EPR-18/CALL-07 Dated: 28-12-2021 for the work of replacement of deteriorated tower type DA+O at 66KV Tower No.71 in the existing 66/11KV DG3&DG4 DC line from existing 66/11KV Manyatha Tech Park S/S., to existing 66/11KV Hoskote S/s near Hirandahalli Lake Limits, Bengaluru Rural.

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-Procurement Mode)

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-4/F-/22-23/4810-11,4815-16, 4820-21 Date: 11.08.2022

2. KPTCL invites bid against following enquiry Nos. for work of improving insulation values and removing moisture of the oil and winding of 20MVA Power Transformer-1 by drying out Transformer completely through Vacuum Pulling and Nitrogen Purging with simultaneous application of heat either internally or externally at following locations in BMAZ South Circle, KPTCL, Bengaluru.

Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/ AEE-4/19-20/EPR-79/CALL-08 Dated: 27.09.2019, Location: 66/11kV Subramanyapura Sub-Station. Tr. Make: EMCO Make, Sl. No: HT1316/11548.

3. Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/ BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/T-4/19-20/EPR-03/Call-07 Dated: 28.06.2019 for work of replacement of old deterioted centre opening type 220kV Isolators at 220/66/11kV Receiving Station, Somanahalli in TL&SS Division, Somanahalli on Total turnkey basis in BMAZ South Circle, KPTCL, Bengaluru.

4. Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/ Tr(M)/BMAZ(S)/ EE(O)/AEE-4/20-21/EPR-22/CALL-12 Dtd:18.03.2021 for the work of "Replacement of age old pneumatic type 220KV SF6 Breakers by spring mechanism type at the **220/66/11KV Somanahalli** Receiving Station, in the jurisdiction of BMAZ South circle **on partial turnkey basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipment's (excluding 220kV Breakers and Conductors) and erection (including civil works) of all materials/ equipment's, testing and commissioning".

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **www.kptcl.com** with hyperlink 'e-Procurement-KPTCL' or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **12.08.2022.** Other details can be obtained from the Office of the Undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ,South Circle, KPTCL, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru.

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENCH, AT BENGALURU
CP (AA) MERGER & AMALGAMATION / 23 / 2022
AND
CP (AA) MERGER & AMALGAMATION / 22 / 2022
IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 230/232 OF COMPANIES ACT, 2013
AND
IN THE MATTER OF ARRANGEMENT AND DEMERGER OF:
SANRIA ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED

CIN: U72200KA2002PTC030529, A company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at No. 30/31, Sai Krupa, Kathrur Dinne Main Road, B. K. Circle, J.P. Nagar 8th Phase, Bengaluru 560078

("Demerged Company" and Petitioner in CP (AA) Merger & Amalgamation / 23 / 2022)

AND SANRIA HOLDINGS PRIVATE LIMITED

CIN: U67190KA2019PTC131164, A company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office at No. 338, P-1, KIADB Industrial Area, Hebbal, Mysuru 570016

("Resulting Company" and Petitioner in CP (AA) Merger & Amalgamation / 22 / 2022)

Notice of Final Hearing
[Under Rule 16(1) of Companies (Compromises, Arrangements & Amalgamations) Rules, 2016]

A petition under Section 230 and 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 for sanctioning the scheme of demerger between Sanria Engineering And Consulting Private Limited ("Demerged Company") and Sanria Holdings Private Limited ("Resulting Company") was presented by the said companies and was heard on 11.07.2022 by the National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru. Vide order dated 11.07.2022, the petitions are listed for final hearing on **08.09.2022**.

Any Persons desirous of supporting or opposing the said petitions should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his or her intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his or her name or address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for hearing the petition.

If he/she seeks to oppose the petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his/her affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of prescribed charges for the same.

CR Raghavendra,
Advocate for the Petitioner Companies, No. 103, 1st Floor, Vimala Elite, Site No. 605, 15th Cross, 100 Feet Ring Road, JP Nagar 1st Phase, Bengaluru 560 078. Email: raghavendra@vraghuraman.in

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No:EEE/BMWND/AEE-1/2022-23/2360 Date:11.08.2022

PUBLIC CAUTION NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified for the information of the General Public that, newly laid 66kV 1000Sq.mm XLPE Copper conductor Single Circuit UG cable for a route length of 3.540 Kms from existing 66/11kV Nelagadarenahalli Sub-station to existing 66/11kV Widia Sub-station passes through the following-from the 66kV Nelagedarenahalli S/s passing along left side of 2nd main road, turns left and passes along left side of 4th cross and turns right, passes along left side of Nagasandra main road, turns left passes along left side of Andrahalli main road upto Indian oil petrol bunk and further crossing the Nelamangala-Bengaluru National highway road, pass along BMRCL metro towards Nelamangala service road, turns right after metro pillar no. 536 pass along left side of Kennametal compound Bagalagunte high school, turns right pass along left side of road connecting to 66kV Widia S/s and will be energized on or after 12.08.2022.

Hence the General public/Village panchayat's/State Government /Private Organizations are hereby informed to keep away from the above EHT UG cable route and not to undertake any excavation in the above UG cable route.

Any untoward incidents or accidents which may occur during the course of excavation/executing work by any body/agency along the cable route without following guidelines, **the KPTCL will not be held responsible** and damage charges for the KPTCL assets shall be borne by the executing body/agency only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Elec).
Bengaluru Major Works North Division,
KPTCL, Anand Rao Circle, Bengaluru-09

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my clients **(1) Smt. Suma Ravindra** W/o. S. N. Ravindra & **(2) Sri. S. N. Ravindra** S/o. Late S.Narayanachariya Char Both residing at No.20, 2nd floor, "POORNANDANA", 2nd Cross, Swimming Pool Extn. Malleswaram Bangalore-560003, Entered into agreement of sale dt. 09.08.2022 to purchase schedule property-B out of in schedule-A property from **Mr.JOHN SERRAO** S/o.Late.ELIAS SERRAO Residing at No.15/2, flat no.304, PRADHAN WREN, 9th C Main Road, Central Library, RPC layout, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040

Apart from the said owner, any person/s claiming to have any charge, any rights, title, estate or interest, claim, by way of inheritance share, sale mortgage, guarantee, attachment, transfer, assignment, lease, lien, interest, minor claims, partition rights, lis-pendens charge, trust, gift, possession or encumbrance, beneficial interest, decree or orders of any court of law, contracts, or otherwise however, into or upon the said schedule property or any part or portion thereof, or against the owner/s or against the documents , whatsoever over the schedule property may lodge their claim to the undersigned with documentary proof which they are basing claim within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice failing which my clients will treat that there are no objections or claims in respect of the schedule property. No claims shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE— A

All that part and parcel of the property bearing House list No. 27 and 28, formed in Sy. No. 38/1, Gramathan Khatha No. 402 situated at Doddabidarakallu Village, Yeswanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North taluk measuring East to West 80 feet, North to South 60 feet bounded On:
East by: Property No. 26 and 25, West by: property No. 29, North by: Road, South by: Property No. 22 and 23

SCHEDULE -B

All that part and parcel of property out of Schedule -A property, portion of Eastern-side of schedule A Property site No. 27 measuring East to West: 40 feet, North to South 60 feet bounded On: East by: site No. 26 and 25. West by : site No. 28 (retain by the Vendor) North by : 25 feet Road, South by: site No. 22 & 23

Date: 12.08.2022 Sd/-
C.Srinivasa, Advocate & Notary, No.71, II Floor, 8th Cross,Malleshwaram, Bangalore-03, Mob: 9342040439

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS "THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT TENDERS"

TENDER NOTICE No.: S/2022/22 **Date: 10.08.2022**

The Principal Chief Material Manager, North Western Railway, headquarter 3rd floor, Near Jawahar circle, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017 for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tenders on **www.ireps.gov.in** site as follows. All the E-tenders will be closed at 14.25 hrs.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty	Unit	Due date
1.	82223329A	Ranibizumab Intra Vitreal Injection	255	NOS	19.08.22
2.	30223175A	BRAKE CYLINDER WITH HAND BRAKE	26	NOS	24.08.22
3.	30223353A	SET OF SPECIAL ALLEN BOLT	972	SET	30.08.22
4.	30221359	POH KIT FOR SHOCK ABSORBER	1163	SET	30.08.22
5.	40221758A	MEASURING AND MONITORING RELAY	810	NOS	06.09.22
6.	30220172	HANGER FOR BOLSTER SUSPENSION BG	4195	NOS	06.09.22
7.	30221352	Revised IRS side buffer casing	599	NOS	06.09.22
8.	30223078	POH KIT OF BRAKE CYLINDER 10"(INCH)	1846	SET	12.09.22
9.	30223163A	OVERHAUL KIT FOR EMERGENCY BRAKE	206	SET	13.09.22
10.	30223071A	N2 Board for WSP system	18	NOS	14.09.22
11.	30222184	Flex ball cable short length	83	NOS	20.09.22
12.	30222197B	Ball joint roll link	3793	NOS	27.09.22
13.	30222120	Draft gear assembly	405	NOS	04.10.22
14.	30221871A	Spring plank	496	NOS	18.10.22

Note:- (1) Interested tenderers may visit the website for Full details/description/ Specification/EMD & tender cost etc. All tenderers are requested to obtain digital signatures and get them registered on above site and quote electronically only. (2) For viewing and participating in other tenders such as open tender costing below Rs. 25 Lakh, limited tenders, special limited tenders and low value tenders, please visit **www.ireps.gov.in.**

623-AC/22 Follow us at INWRailways NWRailways_

IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, FIRST CLASS, AT LYCEUM COMPLEX ALTHINO, 'B' COURT, PANAJI, GOA.

Cri. Case No. AOA 514/2018/B

State of Goa .....Complainant
V/s
Jitendra Subash Prajapati.....Accused

FORM No. 4

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED [SEE SECTION 82 OF Cr. P.C.]

WHEREAS, complaint has been made before me that Accused - 2, Mr. P. S. Gangadhar, S/o Siddaiah, R/o. C/o. Sudershan Dauji road near Sudeshna Garage, Tiswadi - Goa, N/O. H. No. 1094, Maruthi Magar Village Heroh

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Why Tricolour..?

The country's elders gave the nation the Tricolour consisting of saffron, white and green. It symbolized the fight against the British and created waves of patriotism and independence in the Indian subcontinent. Lakhs of freedom fighters were oppressed and sent to prison for holding it. These brave patriots started the Flag Satyagraha movement all over the country without caring for their lives. As a result of their sacrifice, India attained freedom on August 15, 1947. Under the same Tricolour, India is celebrating 75 years of independence this year.

Though Ashoka Chakra replaced the earlier Charaka, the Tricolour continued to symbolize the freedom movement. It united the nation and was also the message for taking the country forward. In the later decades, the Tricolour connected the fellow citizens, from Kargil to Kanyakumari, from Kutch to Arakan Mountains, and gave a colourful form to Indianness. It was in the hands of the Indian cricketers when they won the World Cup, on the Grandmaster's Chess game table and on the pedestal at the Olympic Games whenever India won a gold medal, enthralling the Indians. It created the confidence that we are all one and had spread integrity transcending caste, religion, language and region.

On the occasion of the 75 years of India's independence, the opportunity has come to re-pledge our integrity. We must resolve to build the county in the spirit of nationality and patriotism, keep our individual and narrow interests aside and dedicate ourselves to the nation's service. In addition, **our government is committed to celebrating Amrit Mahotsav and awakening the spirit of patriotism throughout the state under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan 'Har Ghar Tiranga'**.

All those born in independent India have devotion and respect for the Tricolour. Everyone has the right to hoist the Tricolour, forgetting the caste-creed differences. Let's get involved in the nation-building activities under the Tricolour, which symbolizes peace-prosperity, and ignore those who are not appreciating its importance. Let's leave the critics to themselves and dedicate ourselves to the good of the country.

Yours,

Basavaraj S. Bommai
Chief Minister

Har Ghar Tiranga
13th - 15th August 2022

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

Karnataka Information
Department of Information and Public Relations

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560009

TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL)

Kamataka Housing Board invites tender from the eligible contractors who are empanelled & also willing to empanel in Kamataka Housing Board through E-procurement for below mentioned work.

Last date for submission of bid: **24.08.2022 upto 4.00 PM.**

Sl. No.	Work Place	Work Indent & IFT No	Amount put to Tender in Rs.
1	Providing security and cleaning services to Existing Plot-A Residential Apartment at Kudupu, Mangalore Taluk of DK for 12 months period	KHB/2022-23/ OW/Work Indent 1014 & IFT No. 112/2022-23 Date: 10.08.2022	5,79,087.00
2	Providing security and cleaning services to Existing Residential Apartment at Kotekar, Mangalore Taluk of DK for 12 months period	KHB/2022-23/ OW/Work Indent 1013 & IFT No. 111/2022-23 Date: 10.08.2022	5,79,087.00

For further details can be had from Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Ph: 080–22273511 / 080–22100077 website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** during working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/Advt/1761/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (Yelahanka Zone), Amruthahalli Cross, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru.

No.BBMP/SADH/YNK/TENDER/PR/09/2022-23 Date: 11-08-2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Yelahanka Zone), BBMP, Benglauru invites tenders in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms registered in Labour Department for Horticulture Landscape Development / Maintenance of Parks.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work & Category	Approximate value of work (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹)
1.	Landscape Development and Maintenance of Boulevard and Median in Yelahanka Constituency- **Package-1 (Consists of 02 Works) (General).**	76,25,180/-	1,52,504/-

Calendar of Events: (1) The Tender Document can be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from : **12-08-2022. (2)** Tender must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **26-08-2022, 4:00 p.m. (3)** Technical Bids will be opened on **29-08-2022, 11:30 a.m. (4)** Financial Bids will be opend on **02-09-2022.** Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (Yelahanka Zone), BBMP.

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Government of Karnataka
(Women And Child Development Department)
Child Development Project Office Gangavathi
Hosalli Road, Near LIC Office Gangavathi 583227
Email:gvtcdpo@gmail.com

No:CDPG/Egg/Tender/Mod/Or/2022-23 Date:06.08.2022

Addendum Order

Subject:- To the Beneficiaries of 326 Anganawadi Centers of this Project for the year 2022-23 Regarding Implementation of Addendum order E-Tender Announcement For Purchase of Eggs.

Reference:-1) This Office E-Tender Announcement Date:18.07.2022. 2) Head Office Letter No:WCD/ICDS/EGG/1/2021/E-597342 Date:04.08.2022

E-Tender is Invited for Purchase through tender for distribution of Eggs to the Beneficiaries of Anganawadi Centers Under Gangavathi Child Development Project as per Reference (1). In Relation to the tender called Accordingly, in the letter of the head office Reference No (2), it has been suggested to Modify the Section-V Qualification Criteria in the Documentation of Egg Tender in Sl.No 3. Therefore Tender Should be a NECC Registered Polutry Farmer Without Third Party Involment Whether **"Tender Should be a NECC or Karnataka Co-Operative Polutry Fedaration, Registered Polutry Farmer Without Third Party Involment"** has been Modified and ordered in the Tender Document, and Public is Requested to Read Accordingly.

Sd/- Child Development Project Officer, Gangavathi.
DIPR/Koppal/282/MCA/2022-23

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL GRBCC Div No 3
Gokak. Ph No:08332-225213

No. 1) KNNL/GRBCCD-3/DB/Chachadi LIS /Tender/2022-23/6 Dt:-11-08-2022 2) KNNL/GRBCCD-3/DB/Godachinmalki LIS Stage-I/Tender/2022-23/7 Dt :- 11-08-2022

SHORTTERM PERCENTAGE BASED TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement only)

On behalf of the Managing Director Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Limited, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, KNNL, GRBCC DIVISION NO-3 Gokak, Belagavi District in Karnataka State invites tenders on Percentage basis on e-procurement portal for the Chachadi Lift Irrigation (1) Chachadi LIS Reserved for Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribes Works (05) Amount Put to Tender (Approximately): (Excluding GST) Rs: 33.53 Lakhs to Rs.48.41 lakhs (Indent Nos. 32940, 32935, 33493, 32936, 32937) (2) Chachadi LIS General Works (15) Amount Put to Tender (Approximately): Rs: 35.06 Lakhs to Rs.98.15 lakhs (Indent Nos. 32951, 33494, 32955, 32933, 32941, 32942, 32943, 32944, 32945, 32945, 32946, 32947, 32949, 32954, 33495, 33496) (3) Godachinmalki LIS Stage-I (01) Amount put to tender (Approximately): Rs. 59.22 lakhs (Indent No. 32568)

The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document, i.e. the tender schedules, bid documents and other documents in the web site http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non-refundable) (1) The Last of date quarries 22-08-2022 17.00 hrs (2)The date for bid submission starts from 16-08-2022 to 23-08 -2022 17.00 hrs (3) Technical bid opening on 25-08-2022 11.00 hrs, (4) Financial bid opening on after technical bid approved. submission of completed tender documents through e-portal. Further information can be had from the Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL GRBCC DIVISION NO-3, Gokak, Belagavi District during office hours. Phone No : 08332-225213 & e-mail Id:knnlgrbccd3.gokak@gmail.com. Corrigendum /Addendum or any modifications of this tender will be published in the web site of e-procurement only No news paper publication.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
KNNL,GRBCC Division No.3, Gokak

DIPR/SGM/RO-NO-693/MCA/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(KALINADI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT12598/CALL-2 Date: 10.08.2022

SHORT-TERM BID NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal)

Sealed bids are invited for the work of **"Design, manufacture, inspection and testing at firm's work, supply, dismantling of old starter panels, erection, testing & commissioning of 2 nos. soft starters for 150HP Fire Hydrant & Mulsifyre pump & 1 no. soft starters for 75 HP submersible Drainage pump along with supply of Power cable at Nagjhari Power House"** covering all associated works and components to suit the site conditions, from reputed bidders with proven track record of successful completion of similar works. The details of NIT, Brief Bid Notification can also be viewed on **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for receipt of completed bids: **25.08.2022 up to 16.00 Hrs** with EMD: **Rs 49,100/-**, Date of opening of Part-I (Pre-qualification and Technical Bid): **27.08.2022 at 9.00 Hrs** and date of opening of Part-II (Price Bid) of the successful qualified bidders will be intimated later. Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (Generator) Nagjhari, KPCL, Ambikanagar-581 363, Haliyal(Tq), Karwar (Dist.), Mobile: 9449599106, E-mail: eegennph@gmail.com & eegenkalikpcl@karnataka.gov.in**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.: CEE/BGKT/TRNS/SEE(O)/AEE-1/9821-28 Date: 10.08.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

KPTCL invites tender on Electronic mode for the following works including supply of equipments / materials, erection, civil works, testing and commissioning **on Total Turn Key Basis.**

(1) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TRNS/BGKT/110KV/STN-353/22-23/Chandakavate for "Replacement of 1x10 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer by 1x20 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer at 110 kV **Chandakavate** sub-station in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapura District". (Tender No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT9398).

(2) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TRNS/BGKT/110KV/STN-356/22-23/Sindagi for "Replacement of 1x10 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer by 1x20 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer at 110 kV **Sindagi** sub-station in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapura District". (Tender No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT9399).

(3) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TRNS/BGKT/110KV/STN-354/22-23/Malghan for "Replacement of 1x10 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer by 1x20 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer at 110 kV **Malghan** sub-station in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapura District". (Tender No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT9400).

(4) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/TRNS/BGKT/110KV/STN-355/22-23/Chadachan for "Replacement of 1x10 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer by 1x20 MVA, 110/11 kV transformer at 110 kV **Chadachan** sub-station in Sindagi Taluk, Vijayapura District". (Tender No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/ WORK_INDENT9599).

The tenders will be received through e-procurement portal only. The details regarding participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-procurement-KPTCL"** or to **https//eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 11:00 Hrs IST of 12.08.2022.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-Chief Engineer, Electricity,Transmission Zone, KPTCL, 110 kV Substation Premises, Navanagara, Bagalkote, Phone No.: 08354-235692.

CENTRE FOR SMART GOVERNANCE (CSG)
(A Non-profit Society formed by Government of Karnataka under e-Governance Secretariat, DPAR (e-Gov) and registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act 1960)
1st Floor, TTMC, Yeshwanthpura, Bengaluru -560022

No. CSG/001/HRD/2022-23 Date: 12-08-2022

NOTIFICATION

Centre for Smart Governance (CSG), DPAR(e-gov), Government of Karnataka invites applications from eligible candidates in the areas of IT / ICT for the positions listed below:

• Project Manager-06 Nos.	• Project Lead-10 Nos.
• Business Analyst-04 Nos.	• Database Administrator-02 Nos.
• Database Designer-05 Nos.	• Operations Manager-03 Nos.
• Senior Software Engineer-09 Nos.	• Software Engineers-73 Nos.
• Solution Architect-02 Nos.	• System Administrator-02 Nos.
• Test Engineer-12 Nos.	

Interested candidates are requested to send their CVs through e-Mail to **careerscsg@karnataka.gov.in on or before 31-08-2022.**

For further details on qualification & Experience, Please refer **https://csg.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Executive Director
Centre for Smart Governance

DIPR/CP/1771/BCPL/2022-23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture
(Yalahanka Zone), BBMP, Bengaluru - 560 092.

No:BBMP/SADH/YNK/TENDER/PR/10/2022-23 Dated: 11.08.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Yalahanka zone), BBMP Bengaluru (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Horticulture Landscape Development/ Maintenance of Parks.

Name of the Work	Amount put to tender (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
Landscape development of Parks, medians in Byatarayanapura Constituency Package-2 (Consists of 3 works)	93,20,845/-	1,86,417/-

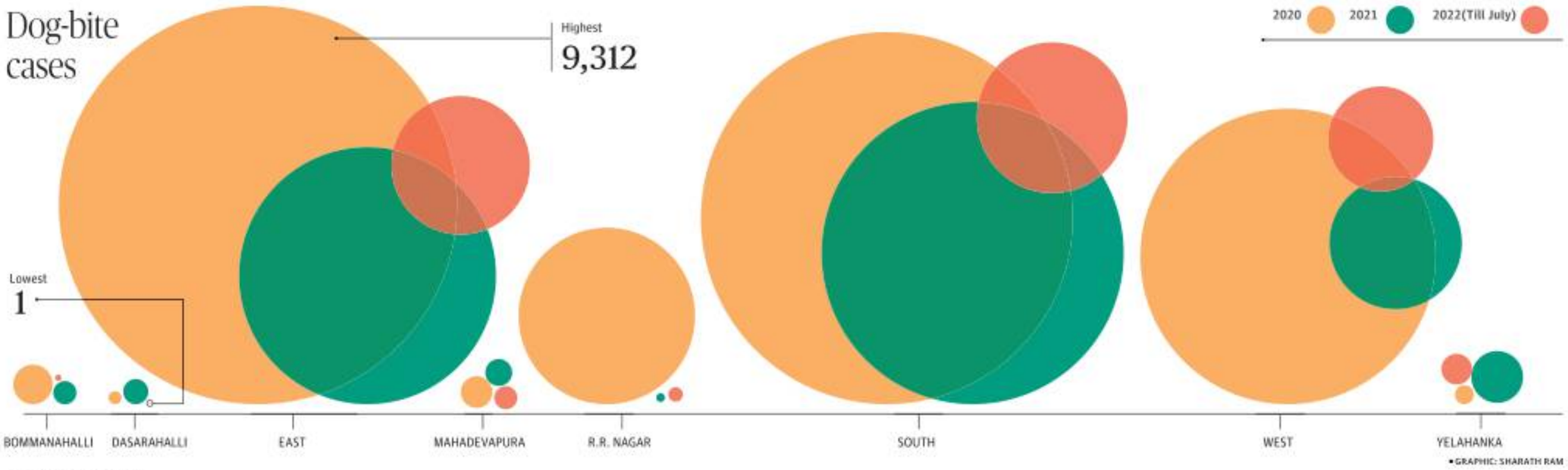
Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **12.08.2022. (2)** Tender must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **26.08.2022** upto **4:30** pm. **(3)** Technical Bids will be opened in the Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Amruthahalli Cross, Byatarayanapura BBMP, Yalahanka Zone) on **29.08.2022** at **11:30** am. (4) Financial Bids will be opened in the Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Yalahanka Zone) on **02.09.2022** at **11:30** am. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Yalahanka Zone), BBMP Bengaluru

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Bengaluru sees 10,000 dog-bite cases this year alone

BBMP officials concede that number of stray dogs in the city is rising; animal welfare activists call for the issue to be handled sensitively



GRAPHIC: SHARATH RAM

DARSHAN DEVAIAH B.P.
BENGALURU

Subhas Gowda, an IT employee in HSR Layout, who returns home after work in an IT firm in Bellandur around midnight, has to contend with aggressive stray dogs which chase his bike every day. In July, during one such episode, in his attempt to escape from the dogs, he fell off the bike and a dog bit him.

After hospitalisation for a week after suffering a fracture in his hand following the accident, he has now requested for day shift in his company to avoid dangerous dog attacks late at night.

"It is scary coming home during the night on a two-wheeler. It is not just one or two dogs chasing the rider. I was chased by a pack of strays on Bommanahalli main road and bitten by a dog after falling from the bike while avoiding them," he recalled.

Crores spent

Bengaluru has seen nearly 10,000 people bitten by stray dogs this year till July, while the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is still struggling with the sterilisation programme. Despite crores of rupees being spent by the civic body, stray dogs, people say, continue to pose a danger to pedestrians and motorists in many places.

Data of the BBMP showed that around 52,262 dog bite cases have been reported to the civic body starting from 2020 to July 2022. BBMP officials concede that the city's stray dog number is rising.

According to the last dog census (in 2019), the number of dogs stood at 3.09 lakh. The previously estimated dog population was approximately 2 lakh in 2006. BBMP officials said that they were unable to take the census for two years due to the pandemic and a fresh census will be done soon.

In 2020, 25,020 dog-bite cases were reported to the Public Health Information and Epidemiological Cell (PHIEC), while in 2021, the city reported a lesser number of dog bite cases - 17,325 while this year, in seven months, the dog bite cases have already crossed 10,000 mark.

The increasing number of dog-bite cases is worrying as they can lead to death or severe health complications, point out animal activists. Speaking to *The Hindu*, Suhas Shetty, an animal welfare activist, said, "Especially when the dog involved is a stray that hasn't been vaccinated against rabies, it is very dangerous. Citizens have to be very careful with the stray dogs, especially during nights. Mostly, the victims will be children, so parents or guardians should be careful."

Feeding strays

He pointed out how the stray dog issue is a sensitive one as there are dog lovers who like to take care of and feed stray dogs as they see them as guardians of the streets, while there are those who think of them as dangerous. "The only solution is that the civic body implements animal birth control (ABC) and gives anti-rabies vaccines (ARV) to dogs. But unfortunately, the BBMP is not implementing the ABC programme with any seriousness," he added.

Meanwhile, the BBMP officials say that they, along with various NGOs, are working to reduce the number of stray-dog-bite cases in the city. A senior BBMP official from the animal husbandry department said, "There are three pillars to any awareness drive, which are surveillance, vaccination, and awareness. We have been achieving the first two pillars and now we are also set out to scale up our efforts in creating awareness to the general public".

Dedicated helpline

He informed that BBMP had launched a dedicated rabies helpline on August 15, 2020, to strengthen surveillance efforts where residents can call the helpline to report suspected cases of rabid dogs and a dedicated team picks up the animal from the location and quarantines it.

Meanwhile, the BBMP, which suspended its Information Education and Communication programme on stray dogs years ago, will resume it soon. IEC programmes were held at schools, slums and other vulnerable areas.

BBMP Health Commissioner Trilok Chandra said, "The BBMP, along with NGOs and Assistant Directors for Veterinary Department, will take up the IEC programme where important information about anti-rabies vaccination will be shared. It will sensitise children about various aspects of stray dogs issue."

The dog census in all 198 wards in the city in 2019 estimated the number of stray dogs at 3.09 lakh, of which around 54% are neutered. • BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Word-wise ABC and ARV details

Zone	2020-21 ABC	2020-21 ARV	2021-22(Feb.) ABC	2021-22(Feb.) ARV
East Zone	7,665	4,145	8,400	10,990
Yelahanka	4,105	7,798	4,839	10,878
South Zone	5,343	4,859	4,412	11,913
Dasarahalli	5,558	9,173	4,810	6,737
West Zone	5,294	2,528	6,834	16,442
Mahadevapura	7,860	7,744	8,426	10,015
Bommanahalli	3,451	863	7,864	14,634
R.R. Nagar	7,752	11,859	7,311	20,289
Total	47,028	48,969	52,896	1,01,898

BBMP neutered
1,81,582 stray dogs since 2019

BBMP gave ARV to
2,53,536 dogs since 2019

Helpline numbers

Suspected rabies case helpline number
6364893322

BBMP departmental helpline number
8277100200

Sterilisation, vaccination programmes run into many hurdles

BBMP asks Animal Welfare Board of India to involve more NGOs in the drive to stem the problem of strays

On an average, 10 dogs are sterilised daily and given ARV by agencies.

DARSHAN DEVAIAH B.P.
BENGALURU

It was in 2000 that the city's civic body launched the birth control programme, touting it as a long-term solution to the stray dog menace. The programme calls for the systematic neutering of strays. Over two decades later, Bruat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials told *The Hindu* that the civic body is fighting an uphill battle against nature.

"Dogs have two annual breeding cycles, with pregnancy lasting 60-62 days, and they give birth to six to eight puppies per cycle. Of this, half of them are usually female. Within 10 to 12 months, the puppies reach maturity and start reproducing on their own. The rate of reproduction is rapid and the birth control programme can only slowly take effect," admitted an official.

The official conceded that the manpower shortage and involvement of fewer NGOs had affected the programme. To control the stray dog menace, extend animal birth control (ABC) and give anti-rabies vaccines (ARV) to dogs, the BBMP has asked the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) to involve more NGOs to carry out the tasks.

The Animal Husbandry department of the BBMP says the implementation of ABC, which is neutering the dogs, has become a difficult task for the civic body as the stray dogs are very agile and quick to hide from the dog catchers, while very few NGOs have been recognised to implement the programme.

Another senior BBMP official said, "We have urged AWBI to accord recognition to more organisations for the ABC and ARV programs. The main problem is that there are very few organisations that are recognised by the AWBI to carry out the ABC programme."

Citizens who spot dogs without notched ears in their areas can call the BBMP zone office or helpline numbers. According to BBMP, notched ear means the dog has been sterilised and vaccinated.

The dog census in all 198 wards in the city in 2019 estimated the stray dog population at 3.09 lakh, of which around 54% are neutered. So far, the BBMP has neutered 1,81,582 stray dogs in 2019 in the city, while 2,53,536 dogs have been given ARV, according to data from the BBMP.

On an average, 10 dogs are sterilised daily and given ARV by the agencies who are tasked to implement ABC and ARV programmes. Each ward has its pickup vehicle by the BBMP to capture dogs and take them to the NGOs' shelters for surgery. The NGOs are paid ₹ 1,200 for sterilising and ₹ 150 for vaccinating the dog.

But NGOs working on the ground are facing challenges, which include catching the dogs. "If we target ten dogs, we only manage to capture hardly two to four dogs as the strays hide in culverts and drains," said a person working with an NGO.

Last month, after meeting with senior BBMP officials, Karnataka Animal Husbandry Minister Prabhu Chauhan said that the animal husbandry department will make Bengaluru free of stray dogs. He had announced that the department is planning to bring dogs under one shelter where they can be rescued and properly taken care of.

Manjunath Shinde, assistant director at RR Nagar Zone's Animal Husbandry department, said that the ABC and ARV programmes are going well in the city. "The dedicated helpline for rabies, which was started by BBMP in 2020 to increase rabies surveillance across all the eight zones, has been working well to manage the issue related to dog bites. Our helpline squad is also conducting intensive monitoring at the ward level itself and we are isolating suspected rabid dogs," he added.

Despite new releases in Kannada cinema crossing the 100 mark, only three films succeeded at the box office. A look at the many reasons why...

Fast fizzling sparklers

:: MURALIDHARA KHAJANE

Kannada cinema which had suffered a serious setback since 2020 following the outbreak of COVID-19 has been showing signs of recovery since January 2022, with many theatres across the State reopening.

Contrary to assumptions that it would be difficult for the Kannada cinema industry to bounce back, as many as 110 movies have been released in the last six months. "If this trend continues, taking into account films in the post-production stage, the number of releases may cross 300 by December," says president of the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC), Ba. Ma. Harish

"Much-awaited movies including Yogaraj Bhat's *Galipata2*, Dhiren Ramkumar's *Shiva 123*, Ravichandran starrer *Ravi Bopanna* have been lined up for release in August, with around 200 films lined up for release till December. These films boast of strong content and entertainment quotient. Hopefully, the Kannada film industry will flourish like before," says R Jagadish, a major Kannada film distributor.

Unfortunately, that is where the good news ends. Of the 110 films released, only three succeeded at the box office.

Debunking the notion that the success rate is disproportionate to the number of releases, Harish says, "There is nothing unusual about this,success rates oscillate between 4% and 5 % even during normal times. The commercial successes of the three films are due to their production values and content."

James starring the late Puneeth Rajkumar, was released in March and did exceptionally well. "Only a few films have carried the emotional heft of *James*," says Dr Sharanu Hulluru, author of *Neene Rajakumara*, a biography of the late actor. "The film succeeded on a commercial and emotional level due to Appu's (as Puneeth was fondly called) extensive fan following."

The success of *James* was followed by the mega success of *KGF: Chapter 2* released in April, establishing Yash as a bankable pan-India star and taking the Kannada film industry to another level.

However, what took the industry by surprise was the success of *777-Charlie* starring Rakshit Shetty. This film which dealt with the relationship between a dog and his master was hugely successful.

A cut above the rest (From left) Stills from 2022 Kannada movie hits *James*; *Charlie 777*; *KGF2* and *Vikranth Rona* • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

VIKRANT RONA JOINS 100 CRORE LEAGUE

Despite its low success rate, the Kannada film industry heaved a sigh of relief at the beginning of July with the release of the much-awaited Shivarajkumar starrer *Bairagi* and Kichcha Sudeep's ambitious *Vikrant Rona*.

While *Bairagi* achieved moderate success at the box office, it is *Vikrant Rona*, which created a record of sorts. According to film trade sources, *Vikrant Rona* joined the ₹100-crore league along with *KGF-Chapter 2* and *RRR* from the South. Sources in Kichcha Creations claim the film collected an approximate ₹110-crore in just one week (including the sale of satellite rights) due to its global release.

Other than these three films, *Home Minister* starring Upendra wrote the preface for failure of a 'star' film at the box office. Though *Taledanda*, *Bodyguard*, *Instant Karma* and other films were released, audience presence at theatres remained negligible. Of the 36 films released between January and March, *Ombattane Dikku*, *Love Mocktail* and *Old Monk*, made little noise and got marginal returns on investment.

N Praveen Kumar, president of the Karnataka Film Producers Association (KFPA) attributes ticket pricing and movies coming on streaming platforms soon after their theatrical release. " The release of films on OTT platforms within days of their arrival in theatres, has become a major issue. Other film industries have already taken up the issue while we are yet to address it. There should be at least a 10-week restriction for the release of films on OTT platforms."

Films that were released in April received a cold response, despite their content and presence of popular actors. *Sakutumba Sameta*, *Harikathe Alla Girikathe*, *Window Seat*, *Tootu Madike*, *Wheelchair Romeo*, *Chase*, *Physics Teacher*, *Selfie Mummy Google Daddy* received appreciation from critics but failed at the box office. KV Chandrashekar, proprietor of Veeresh Theatre in Bengaluru says, "People will watch films that cater to popular tastes, the rest are forced to exit to make way for other films."

Some films failed to draw audiences after the first show and were cancelled. "A minimum of five people should have bought tickets to screen a movie in theatres," says TS Venkatesh, filmmaker and president of Karnataka Film Directors' Association (KFDA).

The situation is no different in other language film industries in the country. "The Kannada film industry is sympathetic with the Telugu Film Producers Guild (TFPG) which has called for all shooting to cease till problems being faced by producers are sorted out,"says Harish.

Nature takes over

Surviving All Odds by Shirley Mathew is a celebration of Nature's triumph despite rampant urbanisation

Green conquest Shirley Mathew and her latest works • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

:: RUTH DHANARAJ

"The lockdown was a difficult phase for everyone, but with time Nature began surfacing," says Bengaluru-based artist Shirley Mathew. "During this trying period, we survived, animals survived, Nature survived. That survival is a depiction of hope – Nature survived against all odds and now we need to nurture it."

"A lot of my work reflects my concern for the felling of trees and how we have urbanised to such an extent that trees are struggling to survive. As an artist, that is how I express myself – others take a more assertive stance and I support them in my own way – through my art," says the artist, whose work since 2011 has reflected this cause.

"My series on urbanisation is not negative in any way. I believe architects are creative in their own right, but there should be a way to co-exist with Nature without denuding the landscape and replacing it with glass and cement. My works usually have a tree somewhere to depict the ongoing struggle."

Surviving All Odds comprises mostly of black, white and earth tones. "Though I usually employ a strong colour palette and bright tones, this series is monochromatic," says Shirley, adding that it is a reflection of her time in lockdown. "We all learnt to make do with what we had in that period, in so many ways. I couldn't go to my studio where I normally worked; I used rice paper collage to introduce an organic element as well as other mixed media."

There is also an underlying element of reinvention to her work. For example, Gradients In Time now has bursts of colour, while the original created in 2011, initially showed foliage and edifice segments. "I've added more interest to it, more life, mainly to say, 'We went through this phase and we reinvented ourselves,''she says, adding that the rest were created during the lockdown.

Shirley always had an inclination for the stage and says apart from art class at school, she only dabbled with colours when she was home in the evenings. Largely self-taught, Shirley says her father and brother realised she could benefit from a structured education in art and encouraged her to take it up seriously.

Shirley studied at the Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington DC, training further at the Escola Llotja in Barcelona."I appreciate self-taught artists but I benefitted from art school. The teachers helped hone my talent. Their constructive criticism gave me a sense of direction where my work was concerned."

Her first solo in 2002 in Bengaluru was to raise funds for Concern India, an NGO. The exhibition was a success and it started her off on her journey as an artist. "I realised that I could express myself through my art, and that has been my journey. I like working with mixed media because you start with acrylic, and then build it up, adding more elements to it before finishing it with oil."

"Mixed media lends itself to other elements – I add whatever comes to hand – rice paper, dry pastels, Indian ink, corrugated sheet, a piece of honeycomb. One can see the different media tell a story, adding to the allure of a piece."

Surviving All Odds comprises 30 works of mixed media on paper as well as oils on canvas and will be on display at MKF Museum, Bengaluru, from August 13 to 28.

FRIDAYREVIEW

Mind your language

Prataya Saha's short film, *Mein, Mehmood*, which talks of the inhibitions caused by a lack of fluency in English will be screened at IFFSA Toronto on August 15

:: SHILPA ANANDRAJ

The short film *Mein, Mehmood (I am, Mehmood)*, directed by Prataya Saha, a Bengaluru-based independent film maker, has been selected for a screening at the International Film Festival of South Asia (IFFSA) Toronto on August 15. The film will also travel to the Chicago South Asian Film Festival in the US.

Prataya says the 11-minute film was shot entirely in Dubai and is a collaboration between Black Book Media, a media house based in UAE and his production house – Red Polka Productions.

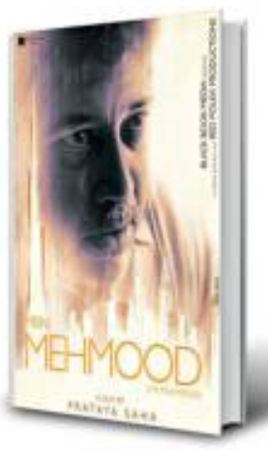
"The film talks about immigrant workers who suffer due to their lack of knowledge of English, specially in overseas jobs," states the 35-year-old filmmaker, who started off as a theatre photographer and also worked in a tech company, before plunging into filmmaking full time.

His work hovers mainly on subjects that affect society. Prataya's previous films have touched on subjects such as domestic abuse during pregnancy (*Just Another Day*) and societal conditioning of women in a patriarchal society.

The film is about immigrants who live abroad and how language acts as a barrier between them and their job/goals, says Prataya. "*Mein, Mehmood* tells the story of a 45-year-old man who works hard. The film is inspired by my travels in the Middle East. I met people from Afghanistan, India, Bangaldesh. They would not make eye contact not out of rudeness but out of inhibition for the language barrier. There are 6,500 languages in the world and English is just one of them, yet it creates anxiety in people who are not fluent in speaking it. We must address this issue as a language should primarily be a mode of communication. If a language adds an emotion of superiority or inferiority in a person, then it creates a divide in humanity. That is what the film talks about."

Mein Mehmood is Prataya's 12th short film, following his debut *Anna's Weekend* (2016), which was also selected for festivals in US and China. Last year, *Just Another Day*, premiered at the New York Asian Film Festival.

Prataya is also concurrenly working on a Bengali feature film, *Shonar Khancha (The Golden Cage)*, which is set in 1989 about a family deliberating selling their 200-year-old house. The film is in post-production.



Capturing life experiences Prataya during the shoot of the film; (left) the poster of the film • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Celebrating freedom

Suzy Q by 1522, Queens Road, is celebrating Independence Day with a special menu, which celebrates the spirit of Indian cuisine featuring dishes from across the country. You will be spoilt for choice with dishes such as *papad ki tikki* from the streets of Gujarat, tijuana chicken *tikka* and Punjabi-style *pindi chole* with butter *kulchas*.

The menu will be available till August 15.

Call 47250088 or visit suzyq.in for reservations.

A special curation

An art show, Freedom @ 75, is on till August 14 at the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. Curated by Jooby Yohannan, the exhibition features the paintings of Bhagwan Chavan. The show is on between 11am and 7pm everyday.

Goovy Saturday

Dj Rhea, who has been playing music since she was nine years, will perform at the Foxtrot, Marathahalli Outer Ring Road on August 13, 8pm onwards.

She started her career in Kolkata and went on to play for IPL KKR post parties before moving to Bengaluru. Entry is free.

Call 9108136001 or the Insat account @houseoffoxtrot for details.

On a classical note

The Samatva Foundation recently released an exclusive performance and educative series – Layaaswada (Taste of Rhythm) – which covers the various aspects of 'laya' in Carnatic music. The series consists of 21 episodes and features well-known artistes from the world of Carnatic music.

The foundation has now planned a valedictory session of the series, which will be held on August 13 at the Pathi Sabhangana, NR Colony. The event will feature performances by Mysore M Nagaraj, G Guru Prasanna, Mysore M Manjunath, Arjun Kumar and Tumkur B Ravishankar.

Log on to www.samatva foundation.com for details

Appoint persons with integrity as Lokayukta, Upalokayukta: HC

Constitutional functionaries need to take a unanimous decision to recommend those with a track record of competence and fairness to these posts, says court

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday recommended that the constitutional functionaries need to take a conscious and unanimous decision to recommend persons with the track record of integrity, competence and fairness, both in public and personal life, to the posts of Lokayukta and Upalokayukta.

The court also said that appointments to these posts should be non-political, transparent, uninfluenced by caste, creed, etc., and should not be to accommodation centre for anybody.

A Division Bench comprising Justice B. Veerappa and Justice K.S. Hemalekha made these observations in its judgment of setting aside creation of Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB). "It is also not in dispute that at one point of time, since the son of the Lokayukta was involved in corruption charges, the Lokayukta was made to resign and that has become possible, in view of the provisions of the Karnataka Lokayukta (KL) Act and PC Act. Such was the independence of the Lokayukta and its effective functioning in the matters of utmost importance from the date of the inception of the Lokayukta in the year 1986," the Bench observed.

Also, the Bench said that there is an immediate necessity to amend provisions of the KL Act to make it binding for the Government to act on the recommendations made by the Lokayukta against a public servant after holding an investigation.

"The legislative intent behind the KL Act is to see that public servants covered by the sweep of the Act should be answerable for their actions as such to the Lokayukta and Upalokayukta and such authorities should be armed with appropriate powers and sanctions so that their orders and opinions do not become 'mere paper directions.' Therefore, it is high time for the State government to strengthen the institution of Lokayukta and Upalokayukta and get back its glory", the Bench observed.

The Bench also suggested that KL police wing should be strengthened by appointing/deputing honest persons with track record of integrity and fairness. The police personnel working in ACB can be transferred to KL police wing under the administrative and exclusive disciplinary control of Lokayukta.

The police personnel who are at present working in the ACB shall be transferred to KL police wing in order to strengthen the latter and such officers would be under the administrative and exclusive disciplinary control of Lokayukta.

The Bench also suggested that officers and officials, who assist the Lokayukta and Upalokayuktas in discharge of their functions shall not be transferred for a minimum period of three years, without the consent of Lokayukta/Upalokayukta.

'ACB has not acted against any Minister'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court has said that the material placed on record clearly depicts that the Anti-Corruption Bureau has not registered any criminal cases against Ministers, MPs, MLAs or MLCs, but only registered a few cases against some authorities and conducted raids.

No material is produced by the government or the ACB to prove that ACB is more powerful than the Lokayukta for the purpose of improving the standards of public administration, and to curb corruption and favouritism, the court said while noticing a large number of cases registered by the Karnataka Lokayukta (KL) police wing against Ministers, MLAs, MLCs for corruption and related offences.

"The ACB is constituted virtually to defeat the very purpose of PC Act itself. The State is bent upon saving its corrupt Ministers and officers and therefore the impugned executive government order and subsequent supporting notifications are contrary to the very object of the KL Act," the Bench observed.

During 2011, the Lokayukta while exercising powers under the provisions of KL Act and PC Act has made the then Chief Minister and a Minister, who were in power at the relevant point of time to resign and created history in the State of Karnataka and has become a model to the entire country, the court pointed out.

FROM PAGE ONE

Karnataka High Court sets aside creation of Anti-Corruption Bureau

If really the government intended to curb corruption, favouritism and indiscipline in the administrative machinery, the court said, the ACB should have been allowed to work under the control of Lokayukta instead of the Chief Minister as stated in the executive order.

"Therefore, there is more scope in the executive order for the political influence and the Chief Minister in power can misuse ACB to control his opponents within his party or the opposite parties. The conditions of the executive government order clearly depict that there is a possibility to favour the party in power or the partymen," the Bench observed.

"The executive government order constituting ACB empowers the Chief Minister to veto investigation or the sanction of investigation. This itself defeats the very purpose of the anti-corruption drive and ACB is not at all an independent body," the Bench observed.

Notifications withdrawn

It also pointed out that the government withdrew its 1991 and 2002 statutory notifications of empowering of KL police wing to probe cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act and declaring KL police office as "police station" without consulting the Lokayukta.

The Bench said: "It is most unfortunate that even after lapse of 75 years of Independence, no political party in the country is willing or dare enough to allow independent authority like the Lokayukta to discharge its duties in a transparent manner in the interest of public at large.

Anti-graft crusaders, ex-Lokayuktas welcome order

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Anti-corruption crusaders and former Lokayuktas of the State have welcomed the High Court order setting aside the Government Order (GO) on formation of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB). They have also advised the State government against challenging the order and demanded that the Karnataka Lokayukta be immediately strengthened restoring ACB powers to the Lokayukta.

Ex-Lokayuktas P. Vishwanatha Shetty and N. Santosh Hegde.

Former Lokayukta P. Vishwanatha Shetty, who as Lokayukta submitted an affidavit supporting a bunch of PILs challenging the ACB, welcomed the High Court order and said the State government was virtually left with no option but to implement the order and restore powers to the Lokayukta.

S.R. Hiremath of Samaj Parivartan Samudaya, one of the petitioners before the High Court of Karnataka challenging the ACB, said the order was a vindication of the will of the people. "We hope the State government doesn't go challenging the order in the Supreme Court at the cost of public exchequer. We have seen how the High Court recently showed to the government and people of the State what ACB is up to. I hope the government humbly accepts the order and implements it immediately," he said.

Former Lokayukta N. Santosh Hegde also welcomed the order of the court and said he had his apprehensions as to whether it will be implemented in letter and spirit.

"When Karnataka Lokayukta submitted reports on illegal mining in 2011, Congress then in Opposition took out a padayatra demanding it's implementation. But when they came to power, they not only did not implement that report, they created ACB and sabotaged Lokayukta. In turn, BJP claimed in its manifesto that they will disband ACB within 24 hours of coming to power, but did not make any efforts to that end. The politicians, be it any government of any political philosophy, have vested interest in not having a strong Lokayukta. I hope the BJP government adheres to its commitment in their manifesto, and restores powers to Lokayukta," he said.

'Reverse amendments'

Meanwhile, Mr. Hiremath also demanded that the State government also reverse amendments to Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984 and restore the qualification of Lokayukta back to either a former Supreme Court judge or a former Chief Justice of a High Court, which has now been diluted to a former judge of a High Court.

Praveen murder case: 3 main assailants held

They are suspected to be associated with PFI and SDPI, says Alok Kumar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

The Dakshina Kannada police on Thursday announced the arrest of three persons who allegedly killed 31-year-old BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru at Bellare in Sullia taluk on July 26.

Despite having definite clues about the assailants from the beginning, the police were unable to secure them as they had been shifting places frequently, said Additional Director-General of Police (Law & Order) Alok Kumar.

Speaking to reporters here, he gave the names of the accused as Shiyab, 33, Basheer, 29, and Riyaz Ankatadka, 27, all hailing from Sullia taluk. With this, the total number of arrested persons has risen to 10. The assailants were suspected to be associated with Popular Front of India (PFI) and Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), Mr. Kumar said.

The ADGP said the police would take the accused into custody to gather more information on their motive and why Praveen was targeted. Political affiliation, if any, would be mentioned in the chargesheet later. The police as well as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) would bring to book other accomplices who harboured and financed the main accused.

Alok Kumar, ADGP (Law & Order), speaking at a press conference in Mangaluru on Thursday. •H.S. MANJUNATH

Mr. Kumar said the assailants were constantly on the move, initially escaping to Bekal in Kasaragod district and to other places. Following a tip-off, Sullia police inspector Naveenchandra Jogi and his team arrested them from a hideout at Talapady on Dakshina Kannada-Kerala border.

The assailants used five two-wheelers, including a black coloured one used on the day of the offence, and a car. The police would seize all these vehicles as well as other material used by the assailants before handing over the case to NIA. The police might take three days to complete the formalities after taking custody of the assailants.

Mr. Kumar said Shafiq, 27, who was initially arrested in the case is the son of Ibrahim, who worked in Praveen's chicken shop for about three months before the crime. Shafiq knew Praveen well and it helped in recce of the latter. The three accused were not involved in any major offences earlier, he said.

To curb criminal activities, the police would take action, including attaching properties, if the accused in any major crime remains absconding. The police were directed to take preventive action against persons suspected to cause communal tension, he said.

Praveen was murdered on the night of July 26 when he was preparing to leave his shop for home by three motorcycle-borne assailants. The police initially arrested Zakir and Shafiq, followed by Saddam, Haris, Abid, Naufal, and C.A. Abdul Kabeer. On August 3, Union Home Ministry asked NIA to take up the probe.

Showcasing patriotism

A sand sculpture created by the team members of 'Sand Theme' at Malpe Beach as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, in Udupi on Thursday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

I'm unmoved by comments of Congress about being replaced as CM: Bommai

'I have become *sthitaprajna* as I know that there is no basis to these remarks'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai broke his three-day silence on the Opposition Congress' remarks that he is about to be replaced.

The Chief Minister, who made his first public appearance after recovering from COVID-19 on Thursday, told mediapersons: "I do not bother about such remarks by the Congress as I have become *sthitaprajna*. I have become *sthitaprajna* because I know the truth. The truth is that there is no basis for such remarks of the Congress. They are politically motivated comments."

Sthitaprajna is a term used in Bhagavad Gita to describe a person of steady wisdom and one who has experienced the truth from within.

Basavaraj Bommai

The Opposition Congress had tweeted that the third Chief Minister is about to occupy the seat of power in Karnataka in the '40% government' (government which is accused of taking 40% commission from contractors).

The Congress had maintained that the 'cloudy environment' after key strategist and Union Home Minister Amit Shah left Karnataka and the subsequent silence among BJP Ministers about his visit was an indication of the imminent leadership change.

Responding to this, the Chief Minister said, "This is not the first time that Congress is tweeting (about the possibility of him being replaced). There is uncertainty in their minds. They are trying to shift such uncertainty to the minds of people. But people will not believe them as they know about my functioning and work."

"The state of *sthitaprajna*, and the remarks of the Congress have made my resolve stronger. It has inspired me to do more for the State's development and strengthening the party. In the coming days, I will work two hours more on a daily basis for the State's development. I will focus more on development of the State, strengthening of the party and reaching out to people," he remarked.

"They (Congress leaders) think that they can bring about instability in the minds of people about my government. But people of Karnataka will not believe it," he said.

'Cong. has failed'

He said the Congress had utterly failed in its efforts to create instability. "In fact, there are two views within the Congress about such a tweet of my replacement," he claimed.

Seeking to downplay the episode of his own party leader and former MLA Suresh Gowda endorsing the views of the Congress, the Chief Minister said there was no need to attach importance to such comments.

Over 45,000 register for Congress freedom march

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday said that over 45,000 people have registered online to participate in the freedom march scheduled to be held in Bengaluru on Independence Day.

The Bengaluru Urban district has contributed with the highest 8,630 registrations followed by Belagavi with 4,534, Bagalkot with 3,988, Vijayapura with 2,758, and Tumakuru with 2,653 registrations. He said that the march is being organised to commemorate freedom fighters, and to instil a spirit of patriotism among people.

The march is scheduled to begin from Sangolli Rayanna Circle and will culminate at National College Grounds, Basavanagudi.

Masks made mandatory in Arogya Soudha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Amid rising COVID cases in the State, the government has made mask mandatory in Arogya Soudha, the health secretariat, in Bengaluru. It has also fixed a penalty of ₹250 for those violating this norm. According to a circular issued by the State Health Commissioner on Thursday, this rule will be applicable to all employees working in Arogya Soudha and the public visiting the offices there. The Chief Engineer at Arogya Soudha has been directed to ensure that all housekeeping staff also comply with this rule, the circular stated.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

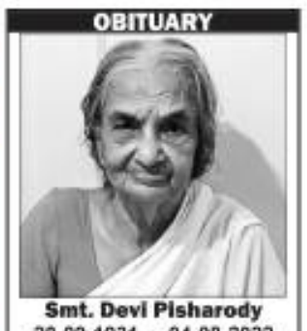
DEATH

OBITUARY

Sri VENKATESWARAN S
12 Dec 1937 – 04 Aug 2022
Ex ICF and RITES Ltd
Deeply mourned by
Family & Friends
Ph: 99401 61445

DEATH

OBITUARY



Smt. Devi Pisharody
28-09-1931 - 04-08-2022
" The Soul migrates from body to body.
Weapons cannot cleave it,
nor fire consume it,
nor water drench it,
nor wind dry it "
Bhagavad Gita - 2.23
In grief: Daughter Sarla, Son Anil, Brother V.C.Pisharody & their families
In accordance with her wish, body was donated to M.S.Ramaiah Medical College, Bangalore

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IN BRIEF

Notice to Dileep on plea for bail cancellation

KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Thursday issued notice to actor Dileep, one of the accused in the actor sexual assault case, on a petition filed by the Crime Branch seeking cancellation of bail granted to him for alleged violation of bail conditions.

Woman surrenders after killing daughter-in-law

RAYACHOTI

The Rayachoti Urban police in Andhra Pradesh were in for a shock when a 55-year-old woman walked into the police station with the severed head of her daughter-in-law on Thursday. According to police, the woman, identified as Subbamma, 55, confessed that she had killed her daughter-in-law Vasundhara over a property dispute.

Break the illegal drug supply chain: Stalin

Drugs are not a solution to challenges, says T.N. Chief Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday launched the 'Drug Free Tamil Nadu' campaign and emphasised the need to break the supply chain.

Since the DMK government came to power, over 41,625 people have been arrested in drug-related cases and properties worth over ₹50 crore frozen, Mr. Stalin said. "However, illegal drugs could not be controlled completely," he pointed out.

The Tamil Nadu government would not hesitate to take strong action against the perpetrators, he added.

"We have to break the chain that supplies illegal drugs," Mr. Stalin said.

The Chief Minister also underlined the importance of creating awareness among drug users.

CM M.K. Stalin delivering his speech at the launch of the campaign on Thursday. • B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

"We have the duty to change them. In case of other ailments, parents and relatives could help. But, in case of illegal drugs, the entire society has to come together to save the victim."

Contending that illegal drugs could never be the solution to an individual's challenges, Mr. Stalin said it would only increase a person's challenges instead.

The Chief Minister also reiterated the role of parents and teachers in extending support to students. He also administered a pledge to students at Kalaivanar Arangam on Wallajah Road in Chennai.

Enforcement Bureau

The Chief Minister also inaugurated the Enforcement Bureau under the Crime Investigation Department.

Ministers P.K. Sekarbabu and Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, Chief Secretary V. Irai Anbu and senior officials were present.

Nine fishers arrested by Sri Lankan Navy

Trawler and fishing gear seized

R KRISHNAMOORTHY
NAGAPATTINAM

Nine fishermen from Nagapattinam were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy after they crossed the International Maritime Boundary Line.

The Sri Lankan Navy deployed a Fast Attack Craft, attached to its Eastern Naval Command, to seize the trawler and the fishing gear and arrest the fishermen.

The arrested fishermen were reportedly taken to Trincomalee harbour and handed over to the Fisheries Inspector for further legal action.

The fishermen, belonging to Akkaraipettai, Keechankuppam and Ariyanadu hamlets, were identified as M. Kamaraj, 40, G. Chellaiyan, 52, U. Poovarasan, 22, S. Anbu, 32, K. Balu, 55, P. Selladurai, 35, S. Muruganandam, 42, A. Sriban, 25, and S. Murugan, 24.

Drones, submersible vehicles for maintenance of rail bridges

V. GEETANATH
HYDERABAD

This monsoon, the South Central Railway (SCR) has introduced new technologies like drones, remotely operated submersible vehicles and 3-D scan of some river beds for improving the inspection and maintenance of bridges to enhance safety aspects of trains during the season.

Senior officials explained, in a recent interaction, that while all bridges are regularly inspected to assess their condition and to identify repairs, there will be certain inaccessible components posing a challenge to the engineers.

"Usually, ladders and ropes are used by the trained staff for accessing these components of the bridge for inspection. We are now using remote controlled Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or drones equipped with high definition photo and video cameras for detailed examination with the help of photos and videos to supplement the manual inspection," they said.

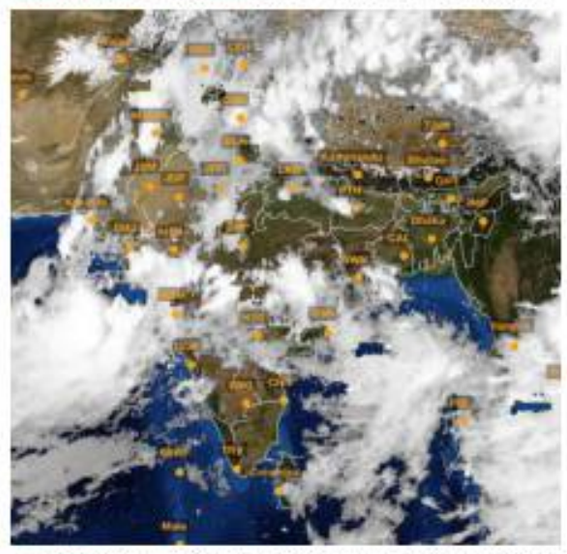
Remote controlled UAVs or drones equipped with high definition photo and video cameras are used for detailed examination. • REPRESENTATIONAL PHOTO

High resolution digital cameras deployed on the UAVs are capable of collecting high resolution images and videos helpful to assess any deterioration of the inspected bridge components over a period of time, it was pointed out.

Similarly, remote operated robotic vehicles equipped with high resolution cameras are being used for taking photos and videos of the submerged with the help of intense light beams for illumination. "The vehicles are manually operated on land to direct the vehicle to reach remote parts of the bridge substructure submerged under water. Earlier, we were dependent on expert divers to assess the bridge condition under water to identify any defects," said senior officials.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Konkan & Goa and south interior Karnataka. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Delhi, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and coastal Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	34.6	25.2	Kozhikode	0.4	31.9	26.0
Ahmedabad	3	30.1	26.0	Kurnool	–	33.6	23.8
Aizawl	–	–	20.9	Lucknow	–	34.0	27.8
Allahabad	–	30.9	26.6	Madurai	–	37.5	23.1
Bengaluru	0.1	27.5	19.7	Mangaluru	1.2	29.3	24.3
Bhopal	56.5	–	23.8	Mumbai	31	29.6	24.8
Bhubaneswar	2.7	29.6	24.0	Mysuru	–	26.0	21.4
Chandigarh	8.4	33.1	26.1	New Delhi	–	31.9	28.0
Chennai	–	37.6	27.2	Patna	–	32.9	27.5
Coimbatore	–	31.4	23.4	Port Blair	–	30.4	25.7
Dehradun	86	31.5	22.1	Puducherry	–	36.4	25.2
Gangtok	0.6	21.8	17.9	Pune	18.4	25.4	21.1
Goa	6	29.9	24.4	Raipur	5	27.8	23.9
Guwahati	–	36.8	26.4	Ranchi	62	23.8	22.5
Hubballi	–	25.0	22.0	Shillong	–	27.7	17.4
Hyderabad	–	30.6	22.4	Shimla	39.3	21.4	15.7
Imphal	–	31.0	19.7	Srinagar	–	24.9	22.4
Jaipur	0.7	29.1	25.5	Thiruvananthapuram	–	32.0	24.0
Kochi	–	30.8	25.0	Tiruchi	–	36.1	26.0
Kohima	–	26.5	15.5	Vijayawada	–	35.4	25.6
Kolkata	37	30.0	25.5	Visakhapatnam	–	32.0	27.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	36	17	68	37	53	
Bengaluru	7	21	45	34	136	
Chennai	40	31	22	32	78	
Delhi	–	84	92	29	77	
Hyderabad	36	12	33	29	60	
Kolkata	8	13	17	21	41	
Lucknow	8	22	85	15	36	
Mumbai	36	28	46	24	37	
Pune	–	41	98	–	–	
Visakhapatnam	12	37	36	48	–	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dharuhera, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 113 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 9

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Isaac need not appear till August 17: ED

Why ex-Kerala Minister asked to give personal details, asks HC

K.C. GOPAKUMAR
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Thursday adjourned to August 17 the hearing on a writ petition filed by former Kerala Finance Minister T.M. Thomas Isaac challenging the summons asking him to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to explain his role in the issue of Masala bonds by the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB).

When Justice V.G. Arun adjourned the hearing, counsel for the ED undertook that Dr. Isaac need not appear before the ED till August 17. The court orally made it clear that it did not want to record the undertaking, but it would be there.

T.M. Thomas Isaac

When the case was taken up for hearing, the court asked counsel for the ED why Dr. Isaac had been asked to produce certain personal details at the preliminary stage of the inquiry. He had the right to privacy. It could not be breached in the first instance.

Counsel for the ED submitted that Dr. Isaac had not been made an accused. He presumed himself to be an accused. He had been summoned to collect certain details regarding the issue of the Masala bonds. In fact, certain individual acts of Dr. Isaac amounted to a violation of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).

Counsel also submitted that if during the course of the investigation other officers of the KIIFB were found involved, they would also be summoned.

The ED was acting in good faith. As a public figure, Dr. Isaac was bound to comply with the summons. Counsel submitted that he would submit before the court why the ED sought personal details of Dr. Isaac after getting materials from the ED officials.

Counsel for Dr. Isaac pointed out that the summons did not reveal what was the nature of the violation of FEMA, nor did it disclose what was the investigation about. The ED was conducting a 'roving inquiry' in order to gather some material to see if there was any wrongdoing on his part. He said the agency had other means to collect the material sought on the KIIFB, a body corporate under relevant statute enacted by the State legislature.

Godavari in spate; alert sounded in island habitations

The inflow crossed second warning at Bhadrachalam in Telangana and Dowleswaram in A.P.

STAFF REPORTER
DOWLESWARAM

The second flood warning was issued on Thursday as the inflow crossed the second warning level at Bhadrachalam in Telangana and Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

At Bhadrachalam, the flood level touched 52.20 feet.

Polavaram project

A total of 13.70 lakh cusecs is being discharged into the Polavaram irrigation project, according to Godavari flood alert reports issued by the Department of Water Resources. The Polavaram project receives the flood water both from Godavari and Sabari which are in spate.

At Dowleswaram, where the flood crossed the second warning level, the outflow was above 13.79 lakh cusecs.

Gushing out: Water being discharged from the Prakasam Barrage on Thursday. • G.N. RAO

Above 7,200 cusecs of flood water was being released through the Godavari delta canal system.

An alert had been sounded in the island habitations to be prepared for evacuation anytime. In Chintoor Agency of Alluri Sitarama Raju district, the Sabari flood water inundated a few habitations on its banks.

Meanwhile, officials of the Water Resources Department lifted all 70 crest gates of Prakasam Barrage in Andhra Pradesh and discharged more than 71,900 cusecs of flood water into the sea by 12 noon on Thursday. To maintain the crest level at 12 feet, the officials discharged the surplus water into the canals.

According to the officials, there was a surplus of 71,940 cusecs at Prakasam Barrage. A total of 83,815 cusecs of flood was realised at the Barrage on Thursday.

The officials are expecting 2 to 3 lakh cusecs and even more as per the releases from Nagarjuna Sagar and Pulichintala Project Dam. They alerted all the officers concerned to take precautionary measures to avoid any untoward incidents along the Krishna river margin on both upstream and downstream of Prakasam Barrage.

(With inputs from Vijayawada)

Corbevax available as booster dose for adults from today

Price for end-users will be ₹400: vaccine maker Biological E

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

COVID-19 vaccine Corbevax is expected to be available as a booster dose on the CoWIN app in public and private vaccination centres from August 12.

The price per dose for private COVID-19 vaccination centres is ₹250, which is inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST). For the end-users, including taxes and administrative charges, the price will be ₹400 per dose, the vaccine maker Biological E said in a statement.

The Hyderabad firm announced this following Union Health Ministry's approval for Corbevax as a heterologous COVID-19 booster dose, under the emergency use authorisation route, for individuals aged 18 years and above. The vaccine can be taken as a booster shot six months from the second dose of the primary vaccination with either Covaxin or Covishield vaccine.

A recombinant protein-based technology is behind Corbevax. • K. MURALI KUMAR

"Corbevax has become the first vaccine in India to be approved as a heterologous booster dose, for individuals above 18 years, on June 4.

The approval by the Ministry is another important step in combating the pandemic," said Mahima Datla, Managing Director of Biological E.

A traditional recombinant protein-based technology, also used for vaccines such as Hepatitis B, is behind Corbevax, the company said.

The Ministry's approval was based on recommendations made by the COVID-19 Working Group of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI).

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) had approved the vaccine for emergency use as a heterologous booster dose, for individuals above 18 years, on

'Mysugar factory being revived'

State govt. has released ₹50cr. for the purpose

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The Mysugar Factory at Mandya which is being revived by the government after prolonged closure, is set to be fully operational in due course said Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Mandya, on Thursday.

Though there were talks of operating the factory as a public-private venture, the farmers were not inclined and hence the State Government released ₹50 crore towards its revival, the Chief Minister added. He said the factory will become fully functional and start crushing sugarcane in fulfilment of the long-pending demand of the sugarcane cultivators of the region.

Additional funds will be released for capital and recurring expenses. He was speaking after inaugurating a slew of developments works in Mandya including facilities and new buildings for Mandya University.

Referring to the university whose jurisdiction will cover the entire district, Mr.Bommai said that nearly 4,500 students are already enrolled for various courses. To encourage youth to turn to entrepreneurship Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti scheme has also been launched and seed money to the tune of ₹1.5 lakh has been disbursed for the Yuva Sangha in each village.

He said the government was committed to the welfare and empowerment of women and hence ₹460 crore had been released for self-help groups and rural women are undergoing skill development courses. He said ₹1.5 lakh has been released for each of the nearly 33,000 Stree Shakti groups in the State. Mr. Bommai said the government has released ₹500 crore for the development and repair of canals of Hebbakavadi, Turavanuru, and Maddur branch canals and the farmers in the command area will benefit. He also distributed the national flag to self-help group members as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign.

Earlier in the day district incharge Minister Gopalaiah, Minister for Sericulture and Youth Empowerment K.C. Narayana Gowda and Sumalatha Ambareesh, MP, participated in the special ceremony held at Mysugar to light the boiler.

Commitment

Mr. Gowda said that the government had displayed its commitment to the promise made to revive the factory which is the lifeline for the sugarcane farmers of the region.

Raj-era building on Kerala-T.N. boundary falls

Built in 1905 by the Travancore royals, it was functioning as a godown of the Commercial Taxes dept.

GIJI K. RAMAN
IDUKKI

Heavy rain has ruined a historical building at Bodimettu, on the boundary with Tamil Nadu, which was used as 'chunkapura' (Customs House) under the erstwhile Travancore rule.

It was one of the few buildings still in use in the Idukki district of Kerala as a legacy of the Raj era.

The building, with the royal insignia of conch on the facade, was constructed in 1905 by Sri Moolam Thirunal Rama Varma, ruler of Travancore. It was later renovated by Sri Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma.

The building was known as 'chunkapura' as taxes were collected there.

Till its collapse, it was functioning as the godown of the Commercial Taxes dept.

The building at Bodimettu on the boundary with Tamil Nadu was used as a 'chunkapura'.

A portion of the building fell at a time when a proposal for its renovation was under consideration.

According to local people, the renovation of the building was long pending and the structure, constructed using stone and 'surkhi,' was in a dilapidated condition and the roof was leaking. Had renovation been done on time, the building could have been kept intact, they said.

A memorial stone in old Tamil alphabet near the building indicates the border with Madras Presidency.

The cardamom and pepper collected as tax were kept at the building. It was also used as a check-point to prevent smuggling of cardamom to the Madras Presidency through the main ghat road.

Workers from the Madras Presidency were engaged for collecting cardamom from the high range forests and it was exported through the Alappuzha port. The checking was to ensure that the workers did not take the highly priced spice along with them back home.

On July 1, 2017, *The Hindu* had highlighted the dilapidated condition of this historical building.

Just in case

It is time the tenability of the Bhima Koregaon case was examined by courts

The grant of bail to the 82-year-old Telugu poet and activist, Varavara Rao, on medical grounds is a welcome relief to at least one of those arraigned in the controversial Bhima-Koregaon case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The Supreme Court has rightly ignored the arguments on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) that age is not a factor in considering grant of bail for one involved in an attempt to overthrow the democratically elected government and that his medical condition is not serious enough. It cannot be forgotten that tribal rights activist Father Stan Swamy, another octogenarian who was arrested in the same case, died of poor health even while his petition for bail on health grounds was being heard. In Mr. Rao's case, he was taken into custody in August 2018 and granted interim bail for six months on health grounds in February 2021. The Bombay High Court had set a date for him to return to custody after treatment, but it has been extended from time to time. Having regard to his age, the Supreme Court has now removed the time limit and given him regular bail, albeit with the conditions that he stay in Mumbai and not to get in touch with witnesses. The Court has also taken note of the fact that the charge sheet has been filed in the case, but the trial court is yet to frame charges. Further, there is no claim that he misused the interim bail in any way.

The options of an accused to get bail under UAPA are largely limited to health grounds, because bail on merits is nearly impossible to get. Under this law, the accused have to demonstrate that the allegations made against them in the police version is, *prima facie*, not true. This onerous condition is not easy to fulfil, especially after the Supreme Court in *NIA vs Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali* ruled that while considering bail, the court should not go deep into the material against a person and must decide whether the prosecution case was true "based on the broad probabilities" of the case. However, the Supreme Court has indeed got around this limitation by treating any long delay in holding the trial and violation of fundamental rights as grounds to grant bail even in UAPA cases. The Bhima Koregaon case is an offshoot of disturbances that took place during a commemorative event on December 31, 2017, in Pune. It was used to rope in lawyers and activists and build a case of an alleged Maoist plot to overthrow the government. There are credible reports that electronic evidence in the case could have been planted using spyware to implicate the accused. It is time the courts examined the core question whether the case itself is tenable or one fabricated to corner some activists. The judiciary should not countenance the prolonged incarceration of anyone in a case of doubtful validity.

A timely gesture

Transferring more tax devolutions to States early in the year is a prudent move

The Centre's move to transfer a large chunk of tax devolution dues to States in one go on Wednesday is a pragmatic step that will not only lend impetus to fresh capital spending on the ground but also temporarily soothe tempers amid a fresh round of unease between the Centre and States. Higher than anticipated buoyancy in tax receipts has nudged the Finance Ministry into raising the States' monthly share of the divisible pool of taxes from about ₹48,000 crore in the first quarter of 2022-23, to ₹58,332.86 crore for August. And surplus cash balances with the exchequer have created room to transfer two months' dues to States in one go, translating into a significant lump sum of nearly ₹1.17 lakh crore. While the Government had done similar transfers to States, dovetailing and remitting two months' dues together last year as well, the context is dramatically different for States in this fiscal year. For starters, they no longer have the fallback option of assured revenues from GST Compensation in the five years till June 30, 2022. Even for the GST dues that accrued this year, the Centre frontloaded the release of around ₹87,000 crore to States for April and May, although accruals in the GST Compensation Cess account at the time were just ₹25,000 crore, by dipping into its own coffers. With another ₹35,000-odd crore of GST dues outstanding for June, the overall recompense for States from GST will be around ₹1.22 lakh crore, less than half of the ₹2.5 lakh-odd crore in 2021-22.

There is another uncertainty facing States that has led to extremely tentative behaviour from their treasuries in recent auctions of State development loans – changes in their net borrowing norms. While the Centre had pegged States' borrowing limit at 3.5% of their Gross State Domestic Product for the year, this ceiling is to be pared in accordance with off-budget debt raised by States since 2020-21. Initial signals that all such off-the-books loans will be deducted from this year's ceiling had a chilling effect too, not in the least because the paucity of clear data on the extent of such borrowings, make it difficult to anticipate the actual ceiling that the Centre would determine for each State. The Finance Ministry has eased up on this front as well, clarifying that only their off-budget debt for 2021-22 will be adjusted against the ceiling and that too, in a staggered manner between this year and 2025-26. The norms for the ₹1 lakh crore interest-free loans offered to States for discretionary projects this year could also be reviewed to help it gain greater traction with State governments. Taken together, these steps should help States, which expressed concerns about dwindling revenues at the recent NITI Aayog governing council meet, back the effort to rev up the economy with a capex spree. Friction points between the Centre and States will persist with fluctuating intensities, but a rising economic tide will ease constraints for both.

Survey data on poverty and broad policy pointers

There needs to be engagement with survey data, but ground-level realities should shape programmatic interventions

R. SRINIVASAN &
S. RAJA SETHU DURAI

Based on multidimensional poverty measurement, the Poverty Ratio (Head Count Ratio) in Tamil Nadu declined from 4.89% in 2015-16 to 1.57% in 2020-21, based on the fourth and fifth rounds of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data. Is this too good to believe? Maybe so. Academics have questioned the quality of NFHS data for various reasons, based on the previous four rounds of NFHS databases. Such questions may be raised against the NFHS 5 database also. But first, let us explore the poverty statistics derived from NFHS 5 data using the multidimensional poverty measurement suggested by NITI Aayog and its pointers for policy intervention. After this, we will raise questions about the quality of NFHS data with the aim of using it with caution and to improve data quality keeping the future in mind.

On the MPI

NITI Aayog, armed with a fairly large sample survey data of NFHS 4 (with more than six lakh households in India), estimated the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and published the baseline report in 2021. The rationale for the MPI was derived from the concept that poverty is the outcome of simultaneous deprivations in multiple functions such as attainments in health, education, and standard of living. The NITI Aayog identified 12 indicators in these three sectors and calculated the weighted average of deprivations in each of these 12 indicators for all men and women surveyed in NFHS 4. If an individual's aggregate weighted deprivation score was more than 0.33, they were considered multidimensionally poor.

The non-poor may also be deprived in a few of these indicators, but not as much to be classified as multidimensionally poor. The proportion of the population with a deprivation score greater than 0.33 to the total population is defined as the Poverty Ratio or Head Count Ratio. The authors have estimated the MPI and its components for Tamil Nadu using NFHS 5 and compared it with the estimates based on NFHS 4 given by NITI Aayog.

Another interesting aspect of this approach is the estimation of the Intensity of Poverty. This is the weighted-average deprivation score of the multidimensionally poor. For instance, the Intensity of Poverty in Tamil Nadu declined from 39.97% to 38.78% during this period, indicating that the summary measure of multiple deprivations of the poor has only marginally declined in these five years, and has to be underlined for policy focus.

The MPI is a product of Head Count Ratio and Intensity of Poverty. The MPI for Tamil Nadu declined from 0.020 to 0.006. This sharp decline in MPI is largely due to a greater decline in Head Count Ratio compared to Intensity of Poverty. This gives us a clue that any further decline in MPI in Tamil Nadu should happen only by addressing all the dimensions of poverty and reducing its intensity substantially across the State.

Direction of intervention

The deprivation estimation also indicates that the overall population that has been identified as deprived in most of the indicators individually is higher than the population identified as multidimensionally poor. This once again reiterates the point that people may be deprived severely in a few functions, but may not be multidimensionally poor. This adds another aspect of public policy intervention, i.e., attacking poverty in Tamil Nadu should not only be multidimensional but also universal. Only this approach can address deprivations in all the indicators. This will also surely and squarely reduce the Intensity of Poverty in Tamil Nadu.

Statistically, the Head Count Ratio and Intensity of Poverty can be calculated for each district and segregated by gender, rural and urban, and other dimensions. Therefore, the usefulness of the MPI and its components is enormous in terms of understanding poverty in its totality as well as the granular

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details that are essential for sectoral and spatial policy and programmatic interventions. The strength of the MPI as an instrument for data-driven public policy depends on the quality of survey data, namely the NFHS data.

Quality of NFHS data

The quality of survey data has been widely debated in academia. The National Sample Survey Organisation's (NSSO) sample surveys have been debated among economists and statisticians, both in terms of sampling and non-sample errors, right from its initial days in the 1950s. Following several review reports on the NSSO's methodologies, the NSSO has been attempting to improve sampling design and reduce non-sampling errors, particularly with reference to recall periods for providing consumption expenditure by households. All these are well documented.

Demographers such as K. Srinivasan, S. Irudaya Rajan, and K.S. James have written several articles on the non-sampling errors in different rounds of the NFHS data. They tested, for instance, the arbitrariness in reporting the age of the dead, differences in data quality between educated and uneducated respondents, data quality based on differences in time taken to complete a survey of different household types, etc. All these have serious implications for health data such as fertility and death rates. A market-based approach to decide the data collection process is also critiqued by demographers.

The authors have done a different kind of quality check for NFHS 5 data for Tamil Nadu. For instance, in Tamil Nadu, the NFHS data was collected in two time periods: 8,382 households (30%) in the pre-pandemic period and 19,547 households (70%) in the post-lockdown period, aggregating to 27,929 households for the State. The data collected from 19,547 households in the post-lockdown period should reflect the impact of the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Let us compare pregnant women and their age distribution in the two periods for a glimpse of this. The proportion of pregnant women below the age of 19 years was 18:82; those between 19-21 years was 25:75 compared to the proportion of 32:68 for pregnant women above 21 years. The pandemic has resulted in increasing pregnancy among women below the age of 21 years, more so among teenage girls. Death per 1,000 households surveyed increased from 118.23 to 135.01 – this is clear evidence of the impact of the pandemic.

The authors have estimated the Head Count Ratios for the 12 indicators and found that such ratios were lower in the post-lockdown period than in the pre-pandemic period, leading to the inference that post-lockdown, the deprivation in several functionings was lower, implying a lower poverty ratio as well as Intensity of Poverty. In particular, the deprivation in terms of nutrition and maternal health declined, and schooling and school attendance increased in the post-lockdown period.

Substitution of dry rations for hot meals in the mid-day meal programmes and high pressures in hospitals in handling COVID-19 cases are expected to increase deprivation in nutrition and maternal health in the post-lockdown period, contrary to the decline in deprivation in nutrition and maternal health in the post-pandemic period that we derived from this database. Tamil Nadu is known to have increased enrolment and reduced the dropout rate year after year; hence, the increase in deprivation in terms of schooling should raise questions. As far as school attendance is concerned, we do not know how parents interpreted school attendance during the long period of closure of schools in the lockdown period. Therefore, combined survey data from two different time periods separated by a major pandemic have to be approached with caution while interpreting the statistics derived from the entire database.

Assuming that survey data are from a single time period, it is normal to compare the results of survey data on specific indicators, with the programmatic data derived from official records. There are claims that the deprivation indicators in terms of drinking water and sanitation are on a higher level in Tamil Nadu than the claims made by the respective State government departments. Such issues are common in survey data. For instance, consumption expenditure on foodgrain derived from NSSO data would not be in agreement with the estimation of food consumption, as per the System of National Accounts.

Data use and quality

The quality of survey data has always been a contentious issue in academic and policy debates for various (well-founded) reasons. However, this has not stopped academicians and policymakers from inferring policy directions because such data at a reasonably aggregate level (say at the level of a State), should be useful. As mentioned earlier, in Tamil Nadu, the sharp decline in Head Count Ratio and a marginal decline in Intensity of Poverty in NFHS 5 compared to NFHS 4, cannot be brushed aside.. From this, we can infer that in order to reduce the Intensity of Poverty we need to address deprivations across the entire population, that is there should be a universal approach instead of a targeted approach to addressing it.

The survey data gives us only broad policy pointers whereas programmatic interventions should be curated with ground-level realities. At the same time, continuous engagement with survey data in terms of improving the sample design and response quality has to be sustained. Analysing the data and finding the incongruence of inferences from different databases on an issue would help improve data gathering systems. Let us continue to use survey data both to derive policy conclusions (with caution) and also to help improve data quality.

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Signs of a dead end for social justice politics

The success of the OBC alliance in 2015 in Bihar may be difficult to replicate in the Hindi heartland

VARGHESE K. GEORGE

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's latest 'partner switch', from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to the Congress and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), has prompted speculation of a new 'social justice' front against Hindutva ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election. 'Social justice' stood for politics that sought better representation and empowerment for lower caste communities. The mobilisation of weaker communities challenged and defeated the Congress first, and slowed down the totalising drive of Hindutva later, in the heartland States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Success in reaching out

The success of Narendra Modi has been in the remaking of Hindutva, blunting its upper caste image and reaching out to a wider spectrum of Hindu communities. The BJP today is a subaltern party that mixes cultural rhetoric, welfare and empowerment. Still, there is euphoria in the anti-BJP camp following the formation of the new coalition in Bihar because the same coalition had defeated the BJP in the 2015 Bihar Assembly election, on a social justice platform. The question, therefore, is whether a revival of social justice politics is possible, yet again, as a counter to Hindutva.

In 2015, the RJD-Janata Dal (United) alliance worked in Bihar, but it collapsed within two years. The alliance gained buoyancy, less from the promise the two Other Backward Classes parties held than the threat the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) posed for backward caste aspirations. RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat had then called for a debate on caste quotas – touching the rawest nerve in Indian politics, though he was only reiterating the long-held Sangh scepticism, encouraged by the Hindutva wave in 2014.

Mr. Modi's Hindutva overdrive could not salvage the situation once the quota debate caught on. He had been Prime Minister for only one year then, and his promise of social justice within the Hindutva tent was untested then. "From then to now, that promise has been delivered. Now, there is a huge constituency of *labharathis* – recipients of various welfare schemes launched by the Prime Minister since then – that enthusiastically roots for him. The majority of them are OBCs," a BJP strategist said.

The BJP, an upper caste dominated party, needed Mr. Kumar to mobilise the OBCs and reassure them that the eviction of the RJD would not mean a change of power from OBCs to an upper caste Chief Minister in 2005. The RJD

PTI

had lost its original spirit of social justice by then. Numerous members of Lalu Prasad Yadav's family were in positions of power, and non-Yadav OBCs moved in hordes to the National Democratic Alliance led by another OBC. By 2020, Mr. Kumar's appeal had diminished, and his party, the JD(U), got fewer seats than the RJD and the BJP.

More space for representation

The BJP had also consolidated its grip over the OBCs, while allowing its upper caste core to flourish through a simple formula – by removing Muslims from its social coalition. Social justice parties had relied on Muslim votes – 17% in Bihar and 19% in Uttar Pradesh, and given them representation in power. By cutting Muslims out, the BJP created space for more representation to OBCs and Dalits. Subaltern representation has gone down overall with the rise of Hindutva, but the BJP managed to rope in communities neglected by the dominant castes of social justice politics, creating a claim that it is truly a platform of Hindu unity. Unlike the Congress that stood stiff and crumbled in the face of social justice storms, the BJP has shown remarkable flexibility in accommodation.

Mr. Modi's Hindutva 2.0 has addressed upper caste antipathy towards caste quotas by introducing a 10% quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). In practice, this is a quota for the upper castes, turning the whole logic of quotas as a tool to address social backwardness of centuries, on its head. The implementation of quotas itself is patchy under the BJP.

For instance, in Uttar Pradesh, Swami Prasad Maurya, an OBC leader who resigned from the BJP ahead of the Assembly elections earlier this year, had said that 19,000 reserved seats of schoolteachers were filled with candidates from the general category. Hindutva has not merely appropriated social justice within its fold but also reconfigured it. "True social justice is when development reaches villages," Mr. Modi had said after opening the Bundelkhand expressway in Uttar Pradesh last month. This idea of 'development as social justice' is a clever spin to the social justice debate.

It is not that all OBCs and Dalits are sold on Hindutva. Mutinies continue, and will continue. Of particular sensitivity for the OBCs will be the prospects of an upper caste Chief Minister, but that is not a dealbreaker between lower castes and Hindutva, as the U.P. experiment shows. Yogi Adityanath is a Rajput, but managed to remain as a unifying icon for Hindutva voters and won a second consecutive term. In Bihar, the BJP currently does not have an identifiable OBC leader who may not make other communities nervous – it will have to groom one of its existing leaders into that role. The BJP is walking a tightrope of balancing caste equations and it can trip on its original mistrust of lower caste demands. But the parties that flourished as torchbearers of social justice are facing a bigger crisis, and the slogan itself has lost its potency to inspire.

Allegation versus reality

Corruption, nepotism and the shameless promotion of the families of leaders who swear by it have emptied the soul out of the social justice slogan. Mr. Maurya's rebellion enthused urban secularists but it did little to open a new front of social justice mobilisation against the BJP in Uttar Pradesh. His daughter was already a BJP Member of Parliament and he was demanding a seat for his son too. In the end, he lost his own seat in the Assembly elections. It remains to be seen whether the new JD(U)-RJD alliance will be able to fight back the BJP charge that social justice is merely a facade for aggrandisement by its leaders and their families – or merely prove the charge right. At any rate, social justice politics is at a crossroads. Or perhaps even at a dead end.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Bihar developments

Present-day politics is indeed one of combinations of convenience. The Janata Dal (United), the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Rashtriya Janata Dal have proved it time and again. The fact is that most political parties have bid adieu to time-honoured values and morality in politics. There is a domination of opportunistic instincts along with self-centred and partisan interests that are above national interests. It is an unfortunate development, especially in the 75th year of India's Independence.

P.K. SHARMA,
Barnala, Punjab

■ It was quite evident that the coalition would not complete its full term as the national party was trying every trick to dislodge the Nitish Kumar government. It is also known that the national party has widened its base at the expense of regional parties. However, it will be a tough task for Mr. Kumar to run another coalition government keeping in mind the RJD's Assembly seat strength.

GREGORY FERNANDES,
Mumbai

■ In today's India, where politics has become not only the art of the possible but of the impossible too, there is nothing odd in strange bedfellows in politics. Voters of this country have already become immune to extreme changes by politicians. In this Mr. Kumar is not the singular or prime sinner.

AYYASSERI RAVEENDRANATH,
Aranmula, Kerala

■ Mr. Kumar could be termed the most opportunistic politician in the country. He has only proven that power matters to him the most. A weakened Opposition lacking in credibility and cohesion will be further hindered if Mr. Kumar becomes its leader.

C.G. KURIAKOSE,
Malippara, Kothamangalam, Kerala

CM's warning

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu's stern warning to police officers in the context of drug trafficking in the State needs to be appreciated. The rise in drug abuse among youth, which was high earlier in the north-eastern States and also Punjab, seems to be moving to the southern region. Unless State leaders monitor the situation, the 'Punjab story' will likely be repeated in the south.

DR. THOMAS PALOCAREN,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

Should medicine be taught in the local languages?

PARLEY

English is important as a medium of instruction, but a regional language helps in practising medicine

The demand for medicine to be taught in languages besides English has been made repeatedly over the years, and was reiterated most recently by Union Home Minister Amit Shah when he said instruction in medicine, engineering and law should be made available in Indian languages. Over the years, academicians have considered the advantages, demerits and challenges of such a move. Dr. Sudha Seshayyan and Dr. M. Janakiram explore the various aspects of the issue in a conversation moderated by **Serena Josephine M.** *Edited excerpts:*

Do you think it is possible to have a regional language as a medium of instruction in medicine? And is there a need to promote Indian languages in higher learning?

Sudha Seshayyan: First, the question relates to a long-term perspective. In that case, it is possible. I have travelled in countries where medicine is taught in Spanish, German and so on. So, it is possible with certain modifications. We probably cannot be water-tight with our words, especially with technical terms. When we say a regional language, there could be an overlap of words from different languages.

Second, looking at the same question from a slightly different perspective on what is currently possible in India... medical students are guided by regulations from the National Medical Commission (NMC). For these students, the medium of instruction is English. So, teaching in a regional language can only be supplementary in case a student does not understand something in English or has studied in, say, a Telugu-medium institution earlier. As of now, students cannot completely study in the regional language because the NMC declares the medium of instruction as English.

M. Janakiram: I would like to add a few points on standardisation in the field of medicine. Greek and Latin physicians had first set the context as far as language is concerned. The present-day physician should have the zeal for higher learning rather than just treating patients. In the National Education Policy of 2020, there is a proposal to promote regional languages. In medicine, most of our curriculum is based on learning by doing, whereas in most other subjects it is learning as such. Before opting for regional languages as the medium of instruction, we have to keep certain things in mind. We have to develop a standardisation tool for every other curriculum through which we can easily compare and correlate things.

SS: At some point in time, learning Latin was mandatory for a medical student. It is not so now. However, we still use Greek and Latin terms. A stage has come where some Greek and Latin terms have been done away with. Worldwide, there is a shift to Anglicised terms. So, I do not think this is a major problem.

There is a necessity for students to have a zeal for higher learning but that does not hamper the utilisation of a regional language. Yes, there is a need to promote Indian languages in higher education for the simple reason that it would improve the thinking component in an individual and probably communication too. The complaint that we receive from society today is that a doctor seldom communicates. Thinking and communication skills would improve if we learn in the regional language. At the same time, I would like to emphasise that there has to be standardisation in the technical terms in Indian languages.

Engineering courses are being offered in Tamil. Have there been attempts to offer medicine in Tamil? There have been initiatives to find Tamil equivalents for English medical terminologies.

SS: Yes, there have been attempts. Some of the early efforts to translate medical textbooks into Tamil were made in Sri Lanka. In our part of the country, we have had some efforts under Professor Lalitha Kameswaran, who was the first vice chancellor of this university. When she was the Director of Medical Education in the 1980s, she brought in a big team, and we would sit for about three to four hours every day before fixing a word for a particular technical term. About 12,000-13,000 words were formed. The movement dwindled. In the last few years, our university has contributed about 10,000-12,000 technical terms, which were translated, standardised and handed over to the 'Sorkuvai' scheme of the Tamil Nadu government, which is a collection of technical terms. Anyone can access and use that word, if it is found suitable. These efforts have been going on. But there have also been some concerted efforts to teach in the regional language in the medical college. This effort is not a complete switch-over to Tamil; it is a supplementary one. There are some students who come from other mediums of instruction. We try to give them additional classes.

R. ASHOK

We have to know regional languages to deal with patients. English can be a common factor for some time to break barriers, but after that regional languages will come into play.

SUDHA SESHAYYAN

MJ: As rightly pointed out, there are issues of linguistic dualism as well as abrupt changes in the medium of instruction as soon as a student enters a medical school. We have found that some students find it difficult to understand concepts. The language of the standard textbooks is not easy, and some find it difficult to convert their thoughts into English during examinations. We have alumni associations which come up with materials for students who had studied in Tamil up to Class XII. Translation is done wherever required. The medical terminologies are maintained as such – like when we explain the pathogenesis of a disease, the course of the disease is translated into the regional language. But many such measures have not been documented.

Often, discussions centre around whether language is a barrier to higher learning. Do you think access is an issue for students who have received primary education in their mother tongue or for those from rural areas?

SS: I don't think language is a barrier for people to learn. The difficulty comes when people find it hard to understand because of the load. Whichever discipline of medicine you take, it's an ever-expanding area. There is a lot to learn. For that, [students] would have to have access to information immediately. If you don't have access to information, it deters you, and the motivation to learn is lost. More information is available in English. And that is where it's necessary to know English so that you can access information. In medicine, I would want to know about newer treating modalities, newer techniques in surgery. If I'm not able to get that information, I have to depend on someone to translate it. There could be errors in translation. For accessing information, we require a language like English, as of now. That is why I've been saying information should be available in the regional language for people to understand. You don't have to necessarily take your exams in Tamil, but at least for you to understand and upgrade your knowledge, it is necessary for the coming generations that we keep all this information in the regional language.

What are the challenges in having medical education in the local languages?

MJ: Medical education is all about research. Going by the U.K. standards, a doctor has to be a social scientist, a scholar, a researcher as well as a practitioner. So, every other aspect has to be covered by a doctor once he/she receives the medical degree. English is required for professional competence; it is the international language of science and medicine. There is also a new concept called English for Medical Purposes. So, taking up medical education in a regional language will always be a challenge.

SS: As of now, it might appear that we will not be in a position to understand things if we move to another part of the country, or if we move to another country. But I don't think that is a major challenge. Several Indian students have gone to the U.S. and the U.K., not because they were very good in English, but because they were good in their subject and skills. It depends on the individual's competence to learn. Adapting and surviving under difficult situations is also a skill. Perhaps a doctor will have to learn that as well.

When I was a student at the Madras Medical College, we used to have a very active Tamil Mandram (Tamil Association). But paradoxically, the Tamil Mandram was also trying to teach spoken Telugu. We also brought out publications like *Sundara Telugu*. It was the 1980s and 1990s. Nearly 50% of our patients in the government hospitals were Telugu-speaking. It would be a challenge to talk to them and get their history, complaints and information, especially during examinations. So, the students learned spoken Telugu. I am saying this because it is necessary for a doctor to communicate with patients.

But again, medicine is an area where we need to have uniform understanding in certain aspects across the globe. Uniform nomenclature is required. We have to know regional languages to deal with the patients. English can be a common factor for some time to break barriers, but after that the regional languages will come into play.

What are the pros and cons?

SS: All our teachers will have to be first equipped. Competency-based medical curriculum has come into the country in the last three years. We are now training our teachers in medical education technology. To train them to teach in regional languages will take more time. But before training them, we also need to have books and materials. I am not sure what will be the future [in the context of] examinations and the medical curriculum with regard to the medium of instruction. The central regulatory agency will take a call. But every language should be equipped with appropriate information, even to help someone study better. They may study in English, but they may also need to study the same thing in Tamil for better understanding and clarity.

MJ: Competency has a number of components – knowledge, skills, values and attitudes. We have to look at what needs to be adapted based on the situation. For instance, interpersonal communication is important when dealing with patients. Here, knowing the regional language will help students. In terms of medical knowledge, to develop our reading skills during undergraduate [studies] and post-graduation and move towards research, English will help us. As far as practice is concerned, it includes both the regional and English language. So, the regional language may be a supplement, whereas English is the essential language.

What is the way ahead?

MJ: As of now, we should stick with English as the medium of education for medical schools. Based on one's interests, regional language can be taken up as a supplement for better understanding and innovation. If a doctor communicates well in a regional language, it will help them to decrease the gap with the patient.

SS: I would like to add something related. People tend to think that in order to study anything related to science, people don't have to have a flair for language. But I've taught medical students for 34 to 35 years. I have realised the importance of language. Language is required for appropriate communication and understanding. I would request medical educationists to not say that the study of language is not required for someone who is pursuing medical or science studies.

Sudha Seshayyan
is vice chancellor of the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University

M. Janakiram
is Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Government Vellore Medical College

Scan the QR code to listen to the full interview online

STATE OF PLAY

Will the bonhomie last?

The unity that Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar demonstrated recently will be subjected to many tests

NAGESH PRABHU

The success of the mega birthday event of the Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly, Siddaramaiah, seems to have, at least for now, convinced the warring factions in the Congress to bury their differences. This comes as a respite in the midst of a running feud between the former Chief Minister and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president D.K. Shivakumar over who the next Chief Minister should be if the party wins the 2023 elections.

Both the leaders, who have attracted public attention with their game of one-upmanship, sought to demonstrate unity by hugging each other in front of massive crowds at Davangere on August 3. Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi expressed joy over this demonstration. To drive home the point of collective leadership, Mr. Gandhi showered praises on Mr. Siddaramaiah's five-year governance as well as Mr. Shivakumar's organisational skills. He said by targeting the ruling BJP for its "misrule" and "failures" on several issues besides "corruption scandals", the State Congress would be able to oust it from power.

Mr. Gandhi, who attended the first meeting of the KPCC's political affairs committee in Hubballi just ahead of the big event, sent out a clear message to the leaders that public utterances on the party's internal matters and leadership issues would not be tolerated. Apparently chastened, both leaders then rallied support for the 'Freedom March' to be held on August 15 and jointly addressed a press conference to mark the anniversary of the Quit India Movement.

There were other signals from the mega event too. Importantly, Mr. Gandhi, accompanied by Mr. Shivakumar, visited the Murugharajendra Mutt in Chitradurga district ahead of the event. In a move to win back the support of the dominant Veerashaiva-Lingayat community, Mr. Gandhi received 'Ishta Linga Deekshe' from Shivamurthy Murugha Sharana, pontiff of the Mutt, and evinced interest in learning Basavanna's teachings. This is seen as politically significant at a time when the Congress is attempting to woo the Lingayats, who are largely seen as loyal to the ruling BJP. Three BJP Chief Ministers have emerged from the community – B.S. Yediyurappa, Jagadish Shettar and Basavaraj Bommai. This outreach gains significance in the aftermath of Lingayat strongman Mr. Yediyurappa's ouster from the Chief Minister's post as well his recent announcement that he will be retiring from electoral politics.

The KPCC chief is also learned to have passed on the message to seers at the Mutt that the party will not repeat the "mistakes" it had made in the past. The Siddaramaiah-led government's decision to secure a separate religion tag for the Lingayats is seen as having divided the community's leaders and dented their prospects in the 2018 Assembly polls.

The backward Kuruba community, to which the former Chief Minister belongs, is a key community in the AHINDA (minorities, backward classes and Dalits). The Kurubas have a good presence across the State, except in the coastal region, and Mr. Siddaramaiah is banking on the AHINDA communities to swing the fortunes in the Congress's favour in 2023. On the other hand, Vokkaliga community leader Shivakumar and a few Congress leaders are keen on a balancing act to ensure that the AHINDA agenda does not drive away the Veerashaiva-Lingayats and Vokkaligas from the Congress. The Veerashaiva-Lingayats are dominant in north Karnataka, while the Vokkaligas are dominant in the old Mysuru region. While it is hard to say which way votes will swing, both Mr. Shivakumar and Mr. Siddaramaiah will face a challenge during the distribution of ticket to their loyalists next year. It will be a real test on whether the show of unity between the two leaders will last.

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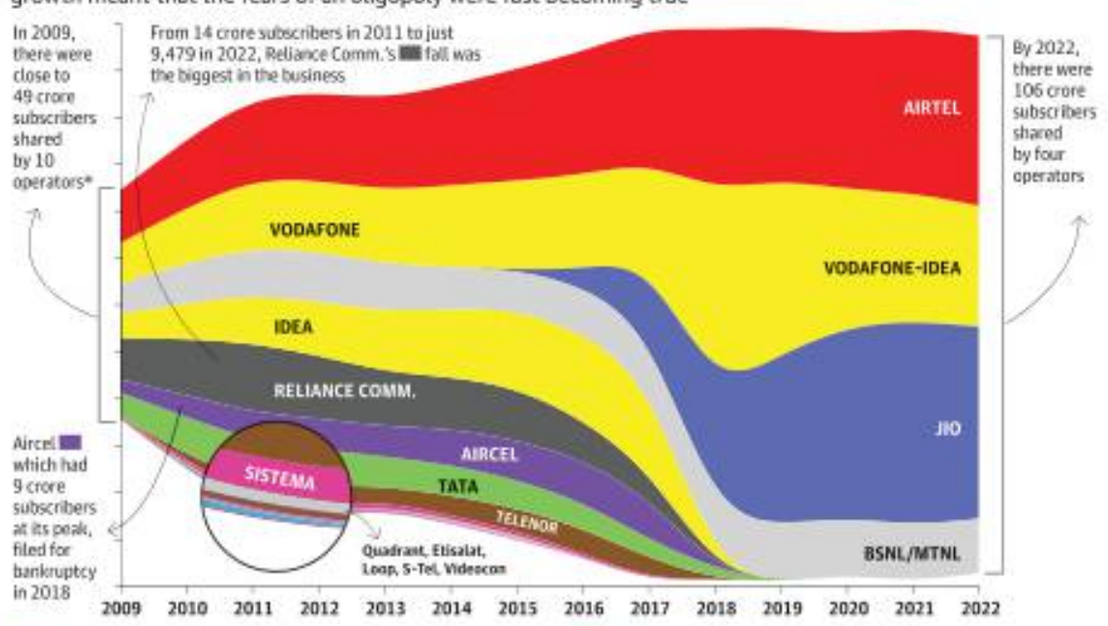
DATA POINT

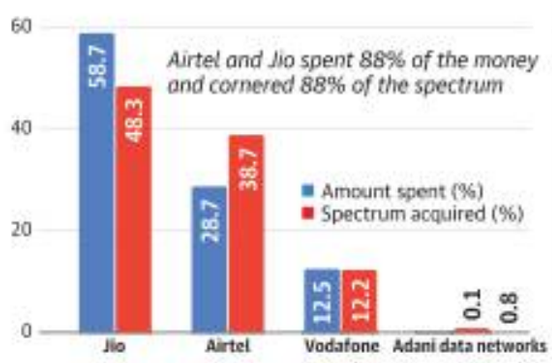
Oligopoly scare grips the telecom sector

Following the Union Cabinet's approval of a ₹1.64 crore package for the revival of the state-owned telecom firm BSNL, K.Rajaraman, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, said in an interview to Business Line, "Our job is to support competition, that is why we have supported BSNL". If the market is not vibrant and competitive, the quality of service to customers will suffer, he said. He added that duopoly or monopoly is "not the way to go". India's telecom industry was competitive and involved many players, both big and small, a decade ago. However, now the sector is reduced to just four players with effectively just two running operations profitably.
By **Jasmin Nihalani** and **Vignesh Radhakrishnan**

1 Waves of change | The graph looks at the telecom sector's consolidation after mergers and exits over the past decade. Operators are differentiated by coloured bands. The bigger the band, the more the subscribers. From 15 players in 2009-11, the telecom sector shrunk to effectively just four players in 2022, with BSNL, the consistent loss-maker, also one among them. Jio's quick rise and Airtel's consistent growth meant that the fears of an oligopoly were fast becoming true


In 2009, there were close to 49 crore subscribers shared by 10 operators*
From 14 crore subscribers in 2011 to just 9,479 in 2022, Reliance Comm.'s fall was the biggest in the business
By 2022, there were 106 crore subscribers shared by four operators
AIRTEL
VODAFONE
VODAFONE-IDEA
IDEA
RELIANCE COMM.
JIO
AIRCEL
SISTEMA
TATA
TELENOR
BSNL/MTNL
Aircel which had 9 crore subscribers at its peak, filed for bankruptcy in 2018
Quadrant, Etisalat, Loop, S-Tel, Videocon
2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

2 Spectrum share | The graph shows each operator's share in the amount spent during the recently concluded 5G auctions and the share of spectrum acquired



3 Profit-loss | The graph shows the profit/loss incurred by the private players. While Vodafone-Idea continues to be in the red, Airtel recovered from the record losses posted recently

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 12, 1972

U.N.S.C. defers discussion on Bangla

United Nations, Aug. 11: The Security Council members, striving to avert a Chinese veto, to-day agreed to defer until August 21 further consideration of Bangladesh's application for U.N. membership. The 15 members, meeting behind closed doors as the Council's Committee on Admissions, also agreed to waive the rule requiring 35 days notice for the admission of a new State by the General Assembly. The Assembly begins its 27th session on September 19. Bangladesh submitted its membership application on Tuesday and the Council voted to place it on its agenda yesterday, overriding strong objections by China. The Chinese Ambassador, Mr. Huang Hua, opposed the inclusion of the formal application in the agenda yesterday, but the Council voted 11 to 1 with three members (Guinea, Somalia and Sudan) not participating to inscribe the item. The proposal by the President, the Belgian Ambassador, Mr. Edouard Longerstaey, to follow the rules of procedure and ask the Committee on Admissions to consider the application was accepted without a formal vote. But Mr. Huang repeatedly asserted that Bangladesh was not qualified for membership and warned that China firmly opposed admission under the present circumstances. He said the U.N. had called explicitly on Bangladesh and India to repatriate prisoners of war. But the situation was that India had failed to withdraw its troops from Bangladesh and more than 90,000 Pakistani prisoners were still detained.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 12, 1922

Music in schools

His Excellency Sir George Lloyd speaking at the distribution of prizes to pupils at the Poona Gyan Samaj yesterday evening said the educational inspector had submitted to him a very satisfactory account of the work which was being done and of the methods employed in training the Samaj. He recognised that there are great difficulties in the way of including the teaching of music as an integral part of school education, the *belief* of these being that there is no *recognised* system of notation in Indian music. The Government had investigated this question very carefully and have had proposals formulated for a course of training for teachers in Indian Music, but this unfortunately had to be dropped owing to prevailing financial stringency.

FROM PAGE ONE

India slams China over JeM deputy chief

The 1267 UN listing mandates members to ensure that terrorists and organisations designated must not be allowed to travel, have recourse to funds or weapons.

However, a UNSC permanent member can place a hold on any listing for a period of up to 6 months, followed by an extension of 6 months, after which it must either accept or deny the listing.

Expressing India's frustration with similar decisions by China in the past, U.N. permanent representative Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj had said on Tuesday that "double standards and continuing politicisation" of the process had rendered the credibility of the sanctions regime at an "all-time low.".

(With inputs from Ananth Krishnan in Beijing)

Militants target Army camp, 4 jawans killed

Two soldiers were injured during the encounter.

Rajouri, home to dense forests, is close to the Line of Control (LoC). The attack took place around 26 km away from the district headquarters in Darhal tehsil.

The Army camp that came under attack had its perimeters secured by barbed wire and iron poles. Official sources said the 'fidayeens' first hurled a grenade at the entry post and then made their way into the camp.

Once a peaceful area, Rajouri saw an uptick in militant attacks since the reading down of Article 370 in 2019. Three Lashkar-e-Taiba modules were busted in Rajouri in July this year. These modules were behind multiple grenade attacks and received arms dropped by drones from across the LoC.

J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha strongly condemned "the despicable terrorist attack". National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah also condemned the attack. "Very sorry to hear about the death in the line of duty of three soldiers following a militant attack in Rajouri. While condemning the attack, I send my condolences to the families and my prayers for the swift recovery of those officers and jawans injured in the attack," Mr. Abdullah said.

SC not in favour of derecognising parties

Senior advocate Arvind Datar, also for the petitioner side, said "giving laptops, TVs and gold chains cannot be to promote Directive Principles of State Policy".

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the Centre, agreed with the court's proposal to form an expert body to recommend guidelines against freebies. He said the "freebie culture" had been "elevated to an art" by some parties.

"Sometimes, elections are fought only on the promise of freebies. It is a dangerous situation if distribution of freebies is considered the only way to reach out to the electorate... We are leading the country to a disaster," he submitted.

He even suggested that the proposed expert body should, along with representatives of national parties, the RBI, Niti Aayog, Finance Commission, etc, also have members of the industry.

'JeM's Asghar led terror attacks'

Officials say China ignored 'incontrovertible evidence' in placing hold at UNSC

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Rauf Asghar, the brother of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Masood Azhar, organised, planned and executed the IC-814 hijacking in December 1999 that finally ended after the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government agreed to release his brother Masood Azhar and two other major terrorists, India and the U.S. said in their joint proposal to the UN Security Council. The proposal detailed a number of attacks Asghar masterminded, from the Parliament attack to Pulwama bombing.

Rauf Asghar, brother of Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar • NIA WEBSITE

Proposal filed in July

Government sources said China's hold came despite the fact that India and the U.S. had provided "incontrovertible evidence" against Rauf Asghar for the terror listing.

As co-sponsors, India and the U.S. had filed the proposal with the UNSC's 1267 committee at the end of July under what is called a "no-objection" procedure.

Terror lists

Officials said they had hoped that the listing would go through without any objections in the final meeting scheduled on August 10, given that Rauf Asghar is on both India and the U.S.'s own terror lists and he has also been convicted in Pakistan on terror-related charges.

Rauf Asghar, whose age is listed as 45 or 48, is identified with four known addresses in Pakistan's Bahawalpur and Karachi.

As deputy chief of the JeM, and financial and administrative head, he is in charge of all the group's terror activities, reporting only to Masood Azhar.

Asghar was a member of the Jaish-e-Mohammad's Shura or General Council as well as on the Qaima standing committee.

'De-facto head'

When Masood Azhar was sent to an undisclosed location by the Pakistani authorities after the Parliament attack in India in 2001, and an assassination attempt on then President Musharraf in Pakistan in 2003, Rauf Asghar had assumed as "de-facto" head of the JeM, said the submission. One Indian hostage was killed during the IC 814 hijacking. While Azhar went on to found the Jaish-e-Mohammad (also called the Jaish-i-Mohammad or JiM) along with Rauf Asghar, Omar Saeed was convicted for the killing of American journalist Danny Pearl.

Mushtaq Zargar, who founded the Al-Mujahideen, is responsible for a number of terror strikes in Jammu and Kashmir.

Terrorist organisation

The Jaish-e-Mohammad was designated a terrorist organisation in 2001 and Masood Azhar was only designated in 2019.

However Rauf Asghar, who is also wanted for the Parliament attack in December 2001, and at least eight major attacks on army camps in Jammu and Kashmir between 2014 and 2019, up until the Pulwama attack of February 2019, has not so far been designated.

CPWD told to resolve MPs' complaints

'Special attention for VIP requests'

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) on Wednesday asked its regional offices to pay "special attention" to pending complaints from "VIPs", including Union Ministers and MPs, with requests for transfer of engineers being the most common reference.

In an office memorandum to all regional offices, the chief engineer for the CPWD's parliamentary matters cell requested that "special attention may please be given to these cases and reply/action taken report may be submitted at the earliest". The government had started a special campaign in October 2021 to dispose of MPs' references, after assurances in Parliament.

The CPWD had 42 "MP references" pending, a letter by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to the department on August 5 said.

Among the "VIPs" who sought transfers, posting, retention and appointment of individual engineers and other CPWD staff were BJP MPs Satya Pal Singh, Ajay Nishad, Mohan Mandavi and Manoj Tiwari, and Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Meenakshi Lekhi and Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Former Congress MP Pawan Kumar Bansal had a pending complaint since September 2021 about replacing the wooden flooring at Vir Bhoomi, the memorial to the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary had a complaint about civil and electrical work at the house allotted to him.

Guillermo Rios is new leader of UNMOGIP

Rear Admiral Rios will succeed Major General Jose Eladin Alcain of Uruguay

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Rear Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios of Argentina as the Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer for the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), the office of the UN Secretary-General has announced.

Rear Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios during an official ceremony in Argentina. • EMBASSY OF ARGENTINA

Rear Admiral Rios will follow Major General Jose Eladin Alcain of Uruguay who has nearly completed his tenure. UNMOGIP emerged from UN Security Council Resolution 39 of January 1948 that set up the UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP).

The Karachi Agreement of July 1949 firmed up the role of UN-level military observers and permitted supervision of the Ceasefire Line established in Jammu and Kashmir.

India officially maintains that the UNMOGIP's role was "overtaken" by the Simla Agreement of 1972 that established the Line of Control or the LoC which with "minor deviations" followed the earlier Ceasefire Line. Pakistan, however, did not accept the Indian argument and continued to seek cooperation from the UNMOGIP. As a result of this divergent policies, Pakistan continues to lodge complaints with the UNMOGIP against alleged Indian ceasefire violations whereas India has not officially gone to the UNMOGIP since 1972 with complaints against Pakistan.

In view of the difference of opinion between India and Pakistan, the UN has maintained that the UNMOGIP could be dissolved only with a decision from the UN Security Council. Despite the respective official positions, the military observers have at times hit the headlines. In the summer of 2017, Pakistan alleged that Indian side had fired upon vehicles carrying UNMOGIP officials who were travelling in the Pakistani territory.

The then MEA Spokesperson Gopal Baglay categorically denied that charge and the UN Secretary-General's office had observed that there was no evidence that could prove Pakistan's allegation. Earlier, India had asked UNMOGIP to vacate the residential property that it occupied.

The Ministry of External Affairs, however, explained that decision as part of "rationalizing the presence of UNMOGIP". The latest announcement regarding appointment of the Argentine naval figure to head the UNMOGIP however has come at a time when India and Argentina are warming up official-level dialogue. Argentina which fought the war over the Falklands with the United Kingdom in 1982 has urged the international community to bring the U.K. to the negotiating table so that it could regain control over the Falklands. India hosted the Argentine Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero in April. Argentina's embassy here reopened its military wing in 2021 indicating at warming up of defence ties between India and Argentina.

Mr. Rios has been part of Argentine Navy since 1988 and has served in two peacekeeping operations – the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) in 1993 and 1994 and the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in 2007.

He has also served as a Humanitarian Demining Supervisor with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Angola (1997-1998). He speaks English, Portuguese and Russian.

IN BRIEF

CBI arrests Mondal in cattle smuggling case

KOLKATA

The CBI on Thursday arrested Trinamool Congress leader Anubrata Mondal in connection with the cross-border cattle smuggling case. The arrest comes after Mr. Mondal, a prominent Trinamool leader skipped several summons by the agency, including two in the past one week.

Assam, Arunachal form panel to resolve dispute

GUWAHATI

Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have formed 12 regional committees to expedite the process of identification and early resolution of disputed areas along their 804.10 km boundary. The two States had disputes in 123 villages along the border but the number was restricted to 86 in the Namsai Declaration, stated a document the Chief Ministers of the two States, Himanta Biswa Sarma and Pema Khandu, signed on July 15.

Amarnath pilgrimage concludes after 43 days

SRINAGAR

The 43-day-long annual Amarnath yatra concluded peacefully in Kashmir on Thursday, with over three lakh pilgrims paying obeisance at the cave shrine located in south Kashmir's Pahalgam area. The '*Chhari Mubarak*' covered the distance of around 145 kms from Dashnami Akhara in Srinagar to reach the cave shrine, located at an altitude of 5,486 metres above sea level, on Thursday.

I-T Dept. detects black income of ₹150 crore

NEW DELHI

The Income-Tax Department has detected unaccounted for income exceeding ₹150 crore following searches against a Jaipur-based group into the business of gems, jewellery, hospitality and real estate. The searches were carried out on more than three dozen premises in Jaipur and Kota. The agency seized documentary and digital evidence, apart from assets worth ₹11 crore.

India and Bangladesh review defence relations during meet

Dialogue meeting co-chaired by Ajay Kumar and Zaman

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The fourth India-Bangladesh annual defence dialogue was held on Thursday during which the two sides reviewed ongoing defence cooperation between the two countries and expressed satisfaction that collaboration is growing despite difficulties imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Defence Ministry said.

Deepening ties: Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar greeting Lt. Gen. Waker-Uz-Zaman in New Delhi on Thursday. • PTI

The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar and Principal Staff Officer of Armed Forces Division (AFD) of Bangladesh Lt. Gen. Waker-Uz-Zaman.

"The talks covered the existing bilateral exercises and training and agreed to increase the complexity of these exercises. Both sides reviewed the progress on various bilateral defence cooperation initiatives and expressed commitment to further elevate engagements between the armed forces," the Ministry said in a statement.

Both sides emphasised the need to work closely to implement the $500 million line of credit extended from India for defence items, the statement said.

"It was wonderful event where both sides could project their interests and also could reflect the need for sustainable mutual cooperation between the age-old friends," a diplomatic source said on the dialogue.

'Democracy ranking must be objective'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Thursday said any ranking of democracies by international agencies should be objective and take into account the local context.

Mr. Kumar was speaking at a virtual meeting hosted by the Election Commission of India for the Asian regional forum ahead of the Summit for Electoral Democracy to be hosted by the National Electoral Institute of Mexico in the coming month. The meeting was on the theme of "making our elections inclusive, accessible and participative".

Mr. Kumar said "democracy and democratic institutions flourish when all groups of people are fully represented", an ECI statement said.

Four drown, 17 missing after boat capsizes in Uttar Pradesh

Vessel overturned in Yamuna in strong winds, say officials

MAYANK KUMAR
LUCKNOW

At least four people, including two women and a child, lost their lives and several were still missing when a boat with roughly three dozen people, capsized in the Yamuna in Banda district, Uttar Pradesh, on Thursday.

People gathering near the Yamuna in Banda, U.P., after the accident on Thursday. • PTI

District administration officials said the accident occurred around 3 p.m. when the boat, on its way to Jarauli Ghat in Fatehpur district, capsized due to strong winds.

Banda's Superintendent of Police (SP) Abhinandan, said, "Till now, 13 people have been rescued and 17 are still missing. Four bodies have been recovered."

"Search and rescue operations are on. A State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team has reached the location. A National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team is on the way and senior government officials, including the Deputy Inspector General (DIG) and the District Collector, are supervising the rescue operations," the SP said.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed grief over the tragedy and directed rescue teams and officials to expedite the relief work.

"CM Yogi Adityanath expressed grief over the loss of lives in the Banda boat tragedy. The Chief Minister has directed officials... to ensure that the injured are provided the best treatment," a statement from the Chief Minister's Office said.

Probe on into smoking aboard SpiceJet plane

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia on Thursday ordered an investigation after an old video of a passenger smoking a cigarette inside a SpiceJet aircraft, went viral on social media.

The video shows a man lying down on passenger seats and lighting a cigarette and smoking it while posing for the camera. The airline said that the incident was from January this year, when the airline filed an FIR and barred the passenger from flying aboard its aircraft for 15 days under the rules for "unruly passengers". SpiceJet said its crew was unaware of the act.

Mr. Scindia responded to a post on Twitter on the issue and said, "Investigating it. There will be no tolerance towards such hazardous behaviour."

"The video was shot on 20th January 2022 while passengers were boarding flight SG 706 scheduled to operate from Dubai to Delhi," said the airline.

Corporal lost vision but did not give up

Manoj Kumar has authored four books and several research papers

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

In 1994, Corporal Manoj Kumar was part of the Indian Air Force team practising a pilot rescue drill at Pathankot, when he suffered a severe injury to the head. In 1998, he completely lost his eyesight, and was medically boarded out of service. However, he didn't give up.

He learnt Braille, went on to get a Bachelor's degree in Education and MA in Hindi before completing his Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in 2020.

Since 2008, he has been employed as a teacher at the J.P.M. Senior Secondary School for the Blind at Lodhi Road in the national capital run by the Blind Relief Association and is the author of four books.

On Thursday, Mr. Kumar met Army Chief Gen. Manoj Pande at his office and presented one of his books, *Ghati Ko Grahan* published in 2021.

The Army chief applauded the efforts of Dr. Manoj Kumar in the field of education and noted that he never let his disability come in the way of his zeal to pursue higher education and creating quality literature, a defence official said. Gen. Pande also applauded his spouse for being a pillar of strength to Mr. Kumar.

Mr. Kumar joined the Air Force in June 1989 and underwent his recruitment training at Airmen Training School, Belgaum followed by posting at Pathankot.

A defence official said Mr. Kumar was part of a commando team and while practising pilot rescue techniques during air crashes, he entered a fire-fighting truck in complete darkness and hit his head on a bar.

Initially, he was fine but the next day his eyes turned red and he was admitted to the military hospital, Pathankot, where he was treated. However, the redness kept recurring every two months and he started losing eye sight, the official explained. He was operated thrice but lost his eyesight gradually. In 1996, he lost vision of one eye and in 1998, lost vision completely, he said.

Tripura Congress MLA attacked

A CORRESPONDENT
AGARTALA

Lone Congress MLA in Tripura Sudip Roy Barman was injured on Thursday in a second attack on him, in less than two months. Miscreants threw bricks resulting in the injury to the MLA.

APPEAL

Name of Patient: **MOHAMMAD SADIK**, 7 years.
Hospital Name: CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE, VELLORE.
Diagnosis: Thalassemia Major. This is a type of blood disorder which is life threatening. The best option for him would be to undergo allogeneic peripheral blood stem cell transplant (PBSCT) with HLA matched sibling donor. Estimated cost of PBSCT at this hospital is approximately **Rs. 15,00,000/-**.
We request kind hearted Philanthropists to save him. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D/M.O. favouring **Save Poor Lives** and on the back of Cheque write A/c Mohammad Sadik. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855. You Can Donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI ID: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.
Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Cestros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848**, Mobile: **9884607377**, E-mail: **savepoorlives@gmail.com** Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

INTERVIEW | S. SOMANATH

'Two-second anomaly led to underperformance of satellite mission'

ISRO Chairman says the SSLV programme need not be declared a failure and a relook could lead to a deeper understanding

T.S. SUBRAMANIAN

S. Somanath, *Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), says that an anomaly for two seconds in one of the accelerometers in the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle led to the mission's underperformance recently. The scientist, who took charge as ISRO Chairman early this year, explains at length what happened when the SSLV put two satellites in the wrong orbit in its debut mission on August 7. Excerpts:*

Where was this logic which did not identify the sensor failure? Was it in the newly introduced velocity trimming module?

■ It is not the logic of the velocity trimming module. This is a logic of the launch vehicle. When something is not working very well, the rocket will have a salvage option. Basically, we look at the various failures which are possible in a rocket. We are prepared for failures, and what we should do with failures. One such condition is called accelerometer failure. There are accelerometers and sensors around which measure the rocket's acceleration in the forward direction. Supposing one of these accelerometers is a failure, what should we do next? There are algorithms residing to handle this kind of failure. The accelerometer can fail just after lift-off... Still, it is designed to put the satellite in the correct orbit.

In this case, what happened is that the measurement of the accelerometer showed some anomaly just at the point of the separation of the second stage. When it showed such an anomaly, the internal computer felt that the accelerometer had failed. Then it triggered something called the salvaging operation.

What it will do next is instead of closed loop guidance, it will initiate what is called open loop guidance. That is, from that point [of failure] to salvaging, it will work in open loop guidance. There is already a path written in the computer that you should go through this path to reach the satellite. ... So it does not look for acceleration data but [the rocket] will simply go in that path. Once it is going like that, the ability to put the satellite in the correct orbit is slightly diminished.

So what happens is that at the end of the next stage firing, the computer believes/assumes that "I cannot go further but somehow separate the satellite after the burning of this motor is concerned." This stage is not a liquid stage [that is, not fuelled by liquid propellants]. It is a solid rocket [fired by solid propellants].

But the solid motor cannot be stopped midway. The computer will wait until the firing of the solid motor, currently firing, is completed. The anomaly happened at the end of the second stage. So the computer wants the third stage firing to complete. As soon as it is completed, the satellites are injected into orbit. It did that.

It did what it is supposed to do. But in that process, it was short of a small velocity. But this shortage is very dear to the whole system. If the velocity [with which the satellites should be injected into orbit] is 7.3 km per second, it has almost reached 7.2 km per second or something. It is now short of 40, 50 or 60 metres per second. This is 7,300 metres per second versus 7,200 metres per second. This difference is very important because in that orbit, from a height of 356 km... the perigee will come down to the extent that its height will be less than the atmospheric height. So the height of the perigee we are getting now is 76 km.

Once the satellite moves in such an elliptical orbit, there is an atmospheric drag and this drag will make the satellite come down very fast. Within 20 minutes or so, the satellite will lose its orbit. So this is what really happened.

The whole purpose of [manned mission] is to show that it is possible to take people there and bring them back safely

The issue we faced here is everything in the rocket worked. All the stages worked. All the propulsions worked. All the sequences worked. The only issue here was that due to an anomaly in the accelerometer, the computer inside decided that the accelerometer had failed, hence "I should save the vehicle." So it triggered a salvaging option which put the satellite into a wrong orbit. So there was really no issue with the accelerometers. They were healthy even afterwards.

Why the computer found that the accelerometers had a small issue is something we do not understand. There could be an actual problem with the sensor. Or there could be a logic problem in the sensor. But this is a standard system that exists in all ISRO rockets. Wherever there is an accelerometer of this nature, it will do exactly like this. So there is nothing wrong with the way it did it. But the sensor did this for this particular time.

Whenever the rocket stages are separating, there will be a transient. A small jerk will be there. In this jerky thing [this time], the accelerometer level slightly exceeded. So we should relook whether the approach to isolate or not to isolate can be suppressed.

You don't have to declare it a failure. You can wait for a little more time and then have a relook at it. We have thought about it.

For two seconds this anomaly existed. After two seconds, it came back to normal. Unfortunately, the computer declared that it was a failure within those two seconds.

Two seconds?

■ There is an unknown thing residing in this whole algorithm. Why two seconds? If it had been three seconds, the mission would not have been like this. If the level of isolation was a little higher, it would not have happened. There could be many reasons. We have to understand why such things happen. There could be a hardware failure, a software glitch, an external trigger or the shock of the transient was slightly higher than what we expected because it is a new rocket. Whatever we have qualified is for a new rocket. In a new rocket, the behaviour of this type will be different. Probably, if we had changed the threshold element, the mission could have been saved.

Chandrayaan-3 will not have an orbiter?

■ No. It will have an orbiter. We cannot go to the moon without having an orbiter in the current configuration. The orbiter is there. We call it propulsion module this time because the earlier orbiter had different payloads. So what we are doing now is we are not doing any experiments using the orbiter's payloads.

The orbiter's only job is to take the lander up to the moon's orbit. It will not have any payloads. The payloads are only in the lander. For the lander to communicate with the Earth, we need the orbiter.

First, the lander will communicate with the orbiter, the mother ship, and the mother ship will communicate with the Earth. That is why the mother ship, which will be orbiting around the moon, is necessary.

At what stage is ISRO's Human Space Flight (HSF) programme?

■ There are different missions planned. The first and foremost is the abort mission. So we are planning to do a test vehicle flight... There are four abort flights we are planning to do. Two of them will be done immediately. After that, we will do the first GSLV-MkIII unmanned flight. After that, we will do two more abort missions. Then we will do the second unmanned mission for the Gaganyaan. Only after these six flights, we will do the manned mission.

Earlier, in the 1980s, we knew that ISRO's P. Radhakrishnan and N.C. Bhat were to fly into space on board the U.S. space shuttle. Their names were announced and information was available about who they were. This time, we do not know who our astronauts are and whether they belong to ISRO or IAF.

■ They are Indians (laughs).

Will two or three go on the first flight?

■ That is a decision we will take a little later. Currently, we are training four people.

Is their training complete?

■ Their training is not complete. It is a process. Until they go, the training will continue. Their practical training was in Russia, theoretical training here, simulator training, and flight training - all these will continue.

How long will they stay in orbit? What kind of experiments will they perform?

■ The original intent was to keep them in orbit for at least seven days and do some experiments related to micro-gravity. But the experiments are they themselves and their vehicle itself is an experiment. So they will conduct psycho-physiological measurements, the whole system validation, etc. But then, seven days is a long period. It will need a lot of resources including water, oxygen, and other things. It is not a very big habitat [the crew module]. So definitely, we will not venture into one week in the first mission. It will be for a short time. The whole purpose is to show that it is possible to take people there and bring them back safely.

Full interview on bit.ly/3AbMIZF
(The interviewer is a senior journalist)

Will Harivansh remain RS Deputy Chairman?

Piquant position after BJP-JD(U) split

SOBHANA K. NAIR
A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

Harivansh Narayan Singh

The Janata Dal(U)-BJP divorce has made Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman and JD(U) MP Harivansh Narayan Singh's future in the post uncertain and has cast a shadow on the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, which is under consideration by a panel headed by JD(U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh, aka Lalan Singh.

Neither the JD(U) nor Mr. Harivansh has commented on whether he will continue in the position despite the bitter parting.

According to sources in the JD(U), Mr. Harivansh was invited by Mr. Singh for the party meeting in which the call to quit the alliance was taken, but he did not reach Patna. Mr. Harivansh, in private, has told many leaders that he is willing to abide by the party diktat.

Since it is a constitutional position, Mr. Harivansh can continue in the post even after the split. Former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee had set the precedent by continuing in the position despite the Left pulling out support from the UPA-1 government.

While the JD(U) is anxiously awaiting Mr. Harivansh's next move, the BJP has reasons to worry.

The fate of the controversial Electricity (Amendment) Bill lies with Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy chaired by Mr. Singh. A number of States, Opposition parties, trade unions and the Samyukt Kisan Morcha have opposed the Bill.

Mr. Singh told *The Hindu* that the committee will examine the Bill. He declined to comment when asked what process the committee will take. He said his party leaving the NDA had no impact on the panel's functioning.

Absolutely bogus: Nitish on claim that he wanted to be V-P

Bihar Chief Minister says Cabinet will be expanded any day after August 15

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Political row: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar with Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav at a function in Patna on Thursday. •PTI

A day after Janata Dal(U) leader Nitish Kumar was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar for the eighth time, he laughed off the claim of senior State BJP leader and Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi that the CM had wanted to become the Vice-President and had approached the BJP for support. "Absolutely bogus," Mr. Kumar said.

"It's absolutely bogus-...what a joke. I have had no such desire. Let them talk as much about me as they can but I'm not concerned who is saying what. He [Mr. Modi] may have got space in media by speaking against me but I'll not mind," Mr. Kumar said.

On Wednesday, Mr. Modi, considered close to Mr. Kumar in political circles, had claimed that some JD(U) leaders had approached the BJP for support for making Mr. Kumar the Vice-President.

"Did they [BJP leaders] know how our party supported their Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates in elections? We were waiting for the elections to be over and then we convened our meeting [to form the *Mahagatbandhan*, or grand alliance, government]," Mr. Kumar added.

Asked about Cabinet expansion, he said, "It will be done any day after August 15." Sources in the government told *The Hindu* that the Ministry is likely to have 32 members against the maximum limit of 36 in the 243-member Assembly.

The RJD will have 16 berths, the JD(U) 13 and the Congress four, besides one for the Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular). The Left parties with 16 MLAs are yet to decide on joining the Cabinet or supporting the government from outside.

A special session of the Assembly has been called on August 24 and 55 legislators have moved a no-confidence motion against Speaker Vijay Kumar Singh of BJP.

Mr. Kumar said there had been a conspiracy to split his party and even leaders from different States had alerted him to the move. Asked if a Union Minister who was from his party was behind this conspiracy, he, alluding to R.C.P. Singh, said, "I do not know who was behind it but the one who was working on their behalf has been shown the door."

Job promise

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav, who took oath on Wednesday with Mr. Kumar to become the Deputy Chief Minister again, said the government would "deliver" on the promise of providing 10 lakh jobs to the unemployed youth of the State in the days to come.

Asked about the BJP's claim that the new government would fall soon because of internal contradictions, Mr. Yadav said, "We all are socialists at heart. We may fight with each other but we'll stay together."

"The term *Mahagatbandhan* was coined when Nitish*ji* had joined hands with Lalu Prasad*ji*. We are happy that he is back with us," he said.

Nirmala says Delhi CM is twisting freebie debate

Kejriwal stoking fear in the poor, says FM

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday slammed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for "perversely twisting" the debate on freebies by questioning whether the provision of education and healthcare also constituted such handouts.

Asserting that the provision of health and education are part of governments' duties in a welfare state, Ms. Sitharaman said they have never been called freebies.

"No Indian government has ever denied them. So by classifying education and health as freebies, Mr. Kejriwal is trying to bring in a sense of worry and fear in the minds of poor," the Finance Minister said.

At a press conference on Thursday, Mr. Kejriwal had remarked: "Why is there sudden opposition to free education, healthcare, medicines, food, etc? Is everything okay with the Centre's finances?"

Stressing that the debate on electoral freebies is not about one political party or a State, a government official involved in economic policy said the question is whether the "freebies" are sustainable and viable. "If someone wants to provide free power to subsistence farmers or small enterprises that need support, it is a good thing but the spending must be provided for in the Budget so power companies get their dues. But if you don't foot these bills, announce free sops before elections and then turn to the Centre for a special ₹1 lakh crore assistance package, there is a problem," the official explained.

Advt. No.-89/2022
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Technical)
in
Bharat Coking Coal Limited
Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is by 15.00 hours on
17th October, 2022
For details login to website
http://www.pesb.gov.in

Congress mega rally on August 28

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's black magic remark at the Congress for wearing black clothes during their August 5 protests, the principal Opposition party announced a series of programmes against price rise that will culminate in a *Mehangai Par Halla Bol* rally at the Ramlila Maidan in Delhi on August 28.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Thursday also took to Twitter to slam Mr. Modi over his "black magic" comments.

"Prime Minister can't see price rise? Unemployment isn't visible? Stop lowering the dignity of the Prime Minister's post and misleading the country by talking about superstitious things like 'black magic' to hide your black deeds, Prime Minister*ji*," he said in a tweet in Hindi.

With BJP close on its heels, BJD turns its focus on tribes

Odisha CM to visit Mayurbhanj district today

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
BHUBANESWAR

Days after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's pep talk to cadres here to strengthen the BJP from the grassroots, Odisha Chief Minister and BJD president Naveen Patnaik's scheduled visit to Mayurbhanj on Friday has given rise to speculation of renewal of rivalry between the two parties in the tribal heartland.

Mr. Patnaik will visit Mayurbhanj, the home district of President Droupadi Murmu, to inaugurate irrigation projects on the Subarnarekha and Deo rivers on Friday. As there is no election round the corner, his visit would have been treated with no political significance. However, the visit to Mayurbhanj, where tribal people constitute 58% of the district's population, is taking place days after the party for the first time celebrated International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on August 9 on a major scale. It was seen as the BJD's concerted effort to consolidate its image as a pro-tribal party.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik with President Droupadi Murmu. •PTI

Political observers attribute the sudden spurt in the BJD's activities to Mr. Shah's repeated emphasis on Mr. Murmu's election.

Veteran journalist Rabi Dash said, "Like the BJP that swiftly tackles political challenges nationally, the BJD is quick to do course correction if it sees any political threat. The BJD's political leaderships know that tribal voters remain faithful to a political party for a long period. The regional party does not want tribals to shift their loyalty to the BJP in wake of Ms. Murmu becoming the President".

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(A Central University)
Tel: 07582-265228

Advertisement No.: DoFA/2022/1615 Dated: 10/08/2022

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited online from eligible candidates for the Regular/Contractual Teaching Positions (Assistant Professor) in newly sanctioned Departments/Centre and also for the newly sanctioned posts in Department of Education. The positions shall be filled in accordance with the UGC Regulations-2018. Details of the Vacant Posts, Subjects, Application Fees, Application Format, Minimum Qualifications etc. may be downloaded from the University Website: **www.dhsgsu.edu.in** Link to submit Online Application will open on **18/08/2022.**

The last date of online submission of Application will be 45 days from the date of Advertisement published in the Employment News/Rojgar Samachar.

Registrar (Offg.)

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
Corrigendum-1 to e-TCN
In continuation to e-Tender Call Notice **No.EM/MCHP-31/2022** for the work **"Operation & Maintenance of Mechanized Coal Handling Plant"**, the date of submission of query, pre-bid meeting, submission of bids and opening has been extended. For online bidding details please log on to the website: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**.
E.E., MCHP
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/183/22-23 dtd.11.08.2022

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-Tender Call Notice
TD/TM/GEN-235(Vol-VI)/22/1545, dtd.9.8.22 for the work "Allotment of 03 nos. of Mechanical Iron Ore/ Iron Ore Pellet plots at IOHP", License Fees: **Rs.2,85,43,020/-**, Wharfage Fees: **Rs.16,93,300/-**. Last date & time of submission of bid & opening of technical bid: **30.08.2022 up to 15:00 hrs**. Refer our website for details **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app & http://paradipport.gov.in**.
Traffic Manager
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/184/22-23 dtd.11.08.2022

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Least Cost Bidding (LCB) on behalf of Tamil Nadu Urban Health Care Project (Supported by JICA).
NIT No. 9/2022-2023/BCMC/MW/CHENNAI Dated: 10.08.2022
FORM OF CONTRACT: Unit Price Contract (LUMPSUM)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu / Tamil Nadu Urban Health Care Project (TNUHP), the Superintending Engineer, Tamil Nadu Public Works Department, Buildings (Construction and Maintenance) Circle, Medical Works, Chepauk, Chennai-5 invites bids for the following work at his office upto 3.00 P.M on 16.09.2022 in sealed cover from the contractors/consortium/ firms.

1. The Government of India has received a Loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of the Tamil Nadu Urban Health Care Project (TNUHP) vide Loan Agreement ID-P251, March-2016.

IFB No. : **TNUHP/PWD/KMCH/2022/MOT.LCB/C1-PKG-69. Description :** Procurement of Modular OT & Hybrid OT for Tower Block, Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital (KMCH), Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. **Approx. value of work : Rs.15,83,00,000/-. Period of Completion : 4 Months.** Bid Document cost remitted in favour of : **The Executive Engineer, PWD, Building Construction Division-III, Medical Works, Chepauk, Chennai-5. GST No. 33CHET10986D1D3**

2. Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information of the bid Documents at the office of the Superintending Engineer, Buildings (Construction and Maintenance) Circle, Medical Works, Tamil Nadu Public Works Department, Chepauk, Chennai-5 from 10.00 A.M. to 5.45 P.M. (3) The Bidding Document may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of (a) Price of Bidding Document : **INR 2,500 + GST (18%) = INR 2,950 (non-refundable).** (b) Postal charges, inland : **INR 500 + GST (18%) = INR 590 (Extra).** (c) Postal charges, overseas : **INR 3000 + GST (18%) = INR 3540 (Extra).** (4) The documents can also be downloaded from the Websites: **http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in** (or) **www.tntenders.gov.in.** The non refundable fees for Bid documents shall be paid by applicants (who downloaded the documents) along with the Bid as stated in Sl.No. (3) above. 5. Pre-bid Meeting : **24.08.2022 at 11.00 A.M at O/o Superintending Engineer, PWD, Building (C&M) Circle, Medical Works, Chepauk, Chennai-5.** (6) Bid Submission Close Date : **16.09.2022 at 3.00 P.M.** (7) Bid Opening Date : **16.09.2022 at 3.30 P.M.**

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD, BUILDING (CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE), MEDICAL WORKS, CHEPAUK, CHENNAI-5
DPR/3716/Tender/2022 E-Mail: superintendingchennai@gmail.com

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
LOCAL HEAD OFFICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA- 695012

TENDER NOTICE FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION OF PROJECT ARCHITECT FOR PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS ON BANK'S PLOT-1 AT PANAMPILLY NAGAR, ERNAKULAM

State Bank of India invites tenders in two cover system (Technical and Price bid) for prequalification and selection of Principal Project Architect cum Project Management Consultant (PPA cum PMC) for the proposed construction of residential quarters on Bank's Plot-1 at Panampilly Nagar, Ernakulam.

The prequalification criteria, scope of the services to be offered, terms and conditions of appointment and the detailed proforma etc. for submission of tenders (Technical and Price Bid) for the purpose can be downloaded from our website **https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/procurement-news**. The last date for submission of duly filled in tenders in the prescribed format at this office will be up to **3.00 pm on 14.09.2022**.

Place: Thiruvananthapuram
Date: 12.08.2022
Assistant General Manager (P&E)

Drugs shortage haunts HIV-positive community

Union Health Ministry responds to protest in New Delhi, says there is no stock-out of drugs at the national and State levels

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

People living with HIV are facing an acute shortage of life-saving drugs, say protesters who have been camping outside the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) office here for over 15 days now.

They allege rationing of medicines, arbitrary change in the drug regimen and even complete deprivation of life-saving paediatric drugs.

They fear that treatment will be interrupted, leading to drug resistance and deaths from AIDS.

The NACO, functioning under the Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry, is a nodal agency responsible for overlooking and coordinating activities of the National AIDS Control Programme.

NACO stand

The protesters noted that the NACO, in its public communication, had claimed that 95% of the recipients had not faced any shortage. Going by the figure, 5% of 14.5 lakh, or 72,500 people, are being affected by the current shortage and stock-out. The impact is severe and far-reaching, they said.

The protesters said that in December 2021, HIV-positive networks across the country started witnessing a shortage of certain drugs at the antiretroviral therapy (ART) centres.

Anticipating a large-scale shortage, they started reaching out to the authorities with numerous letters and e-mails, including an urgent representation to the Health Secretary and the NACO on February 16, raising concern and requesting prompt action to address them.

A fresh tender for procurement was floated in March, but the new tender and contracts were not awarded in time to ensure the resumption of supply, leading to a stock-out of HIV drugs such as Dolutegravir 50 mg, Lopinavir/Ritonavir (adult and child doses), and Abacavir in Assam, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Punjab, Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur and so on, the protesters said.

They added that the NACO, in its May 30 communication to all State AIDS Control Societies (SACS), requested a change in existing treatment regimens as an interim measure to deal with the countrywide stock-out. However, it was an arbitrary request, and did not take into consideration existing treatment protocols, a protester said.

Protocol not considered

"Whether an HIV-positive person has suppressed viral load or not, or if they had used any other regimen before the current regimen, with regards to what previous Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (NRTI) or Protease inhibitors (PI) was used, was not considered," another said.

They added that the response to the crisis in States such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh had been alarming as the tenders came too late and the shortage has already started affecting the recipients.

"As an interim measure, certain SACS procured small quantities of the drugs locally. But a quality test revealed that some drugs did not meet the quality standards prescribed by the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules, raising concern around substandard drugs entering the supply chain," warned a protester, who did not want individuals to be named or identified.

Right to life: A placard put up by protesters during the ongoing sit-in strike in New Delhi. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The HIV-positive community seeks streamlining of central procurement of HIV medicines and an uninterrupted supply of life-saving medicines, thereby safeguarding the right to life of millions in the country who are at risk of being pushed to death, they said.

Ministry's response

The Health Ministry has responded to the protest, saying there is no stock-out and there are no instances of disruptions or non-availability of treatment services or antiretroviral medicines at the national and State levels.

"The NACO has reviewed the entire situation and held a series of meetings with the protesters. The issue of providing a month's supply of ARV drugs was discussed in detail. ARV drugs are being provided for a duration of less than one month currently, but at no point in time has there been any shortage of drugs for any of the HIV-positive people. The ARV stock status is monitored strictly and closely by the NACO," it said.

The Ministry said that at times, if there is an anticipated shortage at ART centres, various proactive steps were undertaken to ensure uninterrupted supply, through immediate relocation from nearby ART centres or from other States in consultation with the concerned SACS.

Also, State and District AIDS Control Societies are authorised to do emergency local procurement as per requirement from their budgeted grant-in-aid provided by Government of India under the National AIDS Control Programme.

"The information under circulation in various fora that there was a shortage of syrup Nevirapine (which is given as prophylaxis to infants born to positive women) and near-expiry medicines were being dispensed is not correct, as most SACS have got fresh supply of this medicine before its expiry date," the Ministry said.

Jairam Ramesh opposes provisions of Wildlife Bill

It was passed in Lok Sabha last week

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A week since the Lok Sabha passed the Wildlife (Amendment) Bill, Jairam Ramesh, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Wildlife and Climate Change (Committee), has objected to its provisions.

The approved Bill allows the "transfer and transport-...for a religious or any other purpose" of captured elephants, a deviation, Mr. Ramesh alleged, from the committee's recommendation that they be allowed only for temple elephants (religious purposes).

"The Standing Committee was clear that exceptions should be made only for captive elephants owned by religious institutions but you have expanded the ambit of expansion in a very open-ended and loose manner," Mr. Ramesh said in a letter to Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.

Animal rights groups, too, have objected to this amended provision in the Bill. "At a time when countries, citizens, and courts are increasingly making decisions against keeping intelligent animals in captivity, this amendment in law sends our country back to the Dark Ages," Khushboo Gupta, Director of Advocacy Projects, PETA India, said in a statement.

'Rubber stamp'

The Wildlife (Protection) Bill, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha in the 2021 Winter Session, was sent to the committee for discussion and amendments. After four months of deliberation, in April this year, the Committee submitted its report on the proposed Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill.

The thrust of the Bill is to amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 by increasing the species protected under the law and ensuring that Indian law is aligned to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Mr. Ramesh also pointed out that the committee's recommendations for the functioning of the State Board of Wildlife were rejected and would reduce it to a "rubber stamp".

Youth employment declined in India, says ILO report

'COVID-19 has hurt youth more than any other age group'

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

India experienced severe working-hour and employment losses in 2020 and 2021, and Indian youth employment deteriorated in 2021 compared with the 2020 situation, according to the Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022 report released by the International Labour Organisation on Thursday. The recovery in youth employment is still lagging globally, the report says confirming that COVID-19 has hurt young people more than any other age group.

It finds that the pandemic has worsened the numerous labour market challenges facing those aged between 15 and 24. Youngsters in this age group experienced a much higher percentage loss in employment than adults since early 2020. "The total global number of unemployed youth is estimated to reach 73 million in 2022, a slight improvement from 2021 (75 million), but still six million above the pre-pandemic level of 2019," the report said.

In India, the report said surveys conducted by the Centre for Monitoring the Indian Economy show that the youth employment participation rate declined by 0.9 percentage points over the first nine months of 2021 relative to its value in 2020, while it increased by 2 percentage points for adults over the same time period.

Job hunt: People from wait by the roads waiting for work in Manesar Industrial Area, in Haryana. • AP

It also warns that the unemployment rate of young people in the Asia and Pacific region is projected to reach 14.9% in 2022, the same as the global average, although there are important divergences between subregions and countries.

In India, the report added that school closures lasted 18 months and among the 24 crore school-going children, only 8% of such children in rural areas and 23% in urban areas had adequate access to online education.

"Given the deeply unequal access to online resources in developing countries, children from socio-economically disadvantaged families, which are the large majority, had almost no access to education," the report said.

It said school closures not only prevented new learning, but also led to the phenomenon of "learning regression", that is, children forgetting what they had learned earlier. "In India, 92% of children on average lost at least one foundational ability in language and 82% lost at least one foundational ability in mathematics," the report said citing studies.

It appreciated the MGNREGA and said it has played an important role in providing paid employment, particularly for women, but also in carbon sequestration because of the Act's focus on natural resources, such as land, water and trees, which provide adaptation benefits.

SC reserves order in EPFO case

Lawyers for government say pension scheme meant to support poor workers

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday reserved judgment on appeals filed by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) against a decision of the Kerala High Court setting aside amendments on "determination of pensionable salary" under the Employees Pension Scheme (EPS) of 1995 as *ultra vires*.

Appearing before the Bench led by Justice U.U. Lalit, senior advocate Aryama Sundaram and advocate Rohini Musa, for the EPFO, said the EPS would face a "complete collapse" if the Kerala High Court judgment was allowed to hold fort.

Mr. Sundaram said the High Court judgment would effectively mean that every private sector employee should be paid a pension irrespective of his salary limit. Every private sector employee would opt for pension and claim it based on the last-drawn salary that yields 50% of the pensionable salary, despite the fact that he did not contribute to the fund.

"Even government employees' government pension schemes do not yield 50% of their last drawn salary after 2004, since the scheme was repealed as unviable. They now get pension based only on their contribution," Mr. Sundaram argued.

Additional Solicitor-General Vikramjit Bannerjee, for the government, submitted that the EPS was the largest surviving defined benefits scheme in the world. Many of such schemes had collapsed all over the world and others replaced by corpus-based pension schemes, he said.

Both Mr. Sundaram and Mr. Bannerjee submitted that the EPS should be allowed to survive as a "guaranteed benefit scheme only for poor workers".

"The poor workers in EPS, who earn below the wage ceiling, are *bidi* rollers, construction workers, sanitation workers, manual labourers, plantation workers, brick kiln workers, miners, security guards, etc," Mr. Sundaram contended.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, for the pensioners and employees' side, said the EPS was far from collapse. The scheme has been paying pension from the interest received from its corpus. Its "majestic" corpus lay intact and untouched.

"Let us be realistic, of all the people in the country, the EPFO comes and says that we do not have funds. They have not touched the corpus even once," the senior lawyer submitted.

The dispute revolves around the controversial amendments made to Clause 11(3) of the EPS-1995.

No more APY benefits for I-T payers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Income tax payers will not be allowed to enrol in the government's social security scheme Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from October 1, according to a notification.

Subscribers of the scheme get a minimum guaranteed pension of ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 a month after attaining 60 years of age, depending on their contributions.

In case a subscriber, who joined on or after October 1, 2022, is subsequently found to have been an income tax payer on or before the date of application, the APY account shall be closed and the accumulated pension wealth till date would be given to the subscriber, the notification said.

3 schoolgirls abducted, sexually assaulted in Delhi

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Three minor schoolgirls were abducted and sexually assaulted after they were given drinks mixed with sedatives at Rohini, the Delhi Police said on Thursday.

Four persons, including two women, have been arrested in the case. The accused are: Bangali Lal Sharma, 45, Sandeep alias Shanky, 36, Ruksana, 40 and Jyoti, 19, the police said. The accused had a history of previous involvements.

The Defence Colony police station received a complaint from a resident of Masjid Moth on August 6 claiming that his daughter and her two other classmates were missing from school. A case under Section 363 (kidnapping) of the IPC was registered and investigation was taken up, said Benita Mary Jaiker, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South). During the investigation, the police received information about the girls in the Karol Bagh area. They were traced and medically examined. The prosecutrix gave history of sexual assault, the police said.

One of the accused, Bangali Lal Sharma, present there revealed that he used to run a syndicate of selling the girls along with a woman named Ruksana.

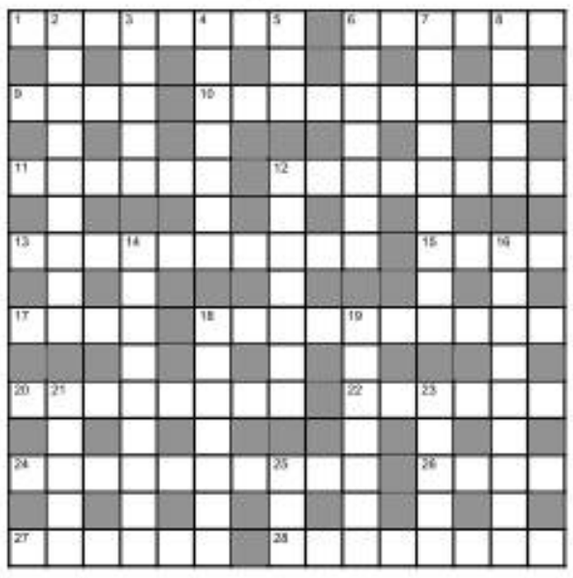
As per the victim's statement, Sharma along with Prakash alias Sanjay had taken them to Rohini where they offered them drinks mixed with sedatives and Prakash sexually assaulted them. On August 8, the girls managed to run away while Prakash tried to take them to Chandigarh for selling them. They fled from there and reached Karol Bagh by an auto, the DCP said. The girls were rescued by the police on the same day.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD + 13633

(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

1 Flight delay over a short twisted wire (8)
6 Mineral's amount of liquid: unknown (6)
9 This servant is to turn older on the second of April (4)
10 Possibility: do magic tricks including juggling etc. (10)
11 Insect circled place repeatedly (6)
12 Beginner in swimming class frequently eyed pool's end that's shallow (4-4)
13 Reactive effects of oxygen seen in crumbling Iron Cross (10)
15 TV ratings governing India's fall (4)
17 New and Old Testament, finally coming up! (4)
18 Grow excited over fiction featuring female space traveller in the lead (4,2,4)
20 The Reverend's computer cover is a medium of expression for a graffiti artist (5,3)
22 Toxic husband dumped – no more could one bear! (6)
24 Someone offering quick deliveries of fresh flowers at around Bengaluru's western tip (4,6)
26 This queen revolutionised nation (4)
27 Fast hero, very English (6)
28 Set my calendar – am somehow going to do some laundry work (3-5)

Down

2 Switch off rants and sit! (9)
3 Partially upturned ballpoint pen is useless (5)
4 With entry passes, crossed at entrance gates (7)
5 Desire happy ending after taking clothes off (3)
6 Queen takes queen, that is Magnus's end! Doubts? (7)
7 Toad-tail concoction (containing a hint of nutmeg) having curative properties (9)
8 Every now and then, we hear that uplifting number (5)
12 Statue that can melt monster's heart right away, wow! (7)
14 Terror act injured muscle (9)
16 Fanzine edited after receiving oddly loud complaint (9)
18 City evacuated on the double for storm (7)
19 Beverage delivery platform's free treat: samples of Armenian yorsh (3,4)
21 Position of Jupiter, perhaps overlooking east (5)
23 A betrayal, ultimately, after a drink is raised? The Last Supper, maybe! (5)
25 Followed the personnel's backs? On the contrary! (3)

SUDOKU

4					8		7	9
						5		
1	6			2				4
9				8			1	
	2			3			4	
	3			9				2
8				5			6	1
		5						
7	1		8					3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13632

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	9	4	3	8	5	6	7	1
3	5	8	1	6	7	4	2	9
1	7	6	4	2	9	5	8	3
4	2	9	6	3	1	7	5	8
8	6	3	7	5	2	1	9	4
7	1	5	8	9	4	2	3	6
9	3	2	5	4	6	8	1	7
5	4	1	9	7	8	3	6	2
6	8	7	2	1	3	9	4	5

FAITH

On guard against sins

Mandodari, wife of Ravana, cried over her husband's death. She observed that there was a time when Ravana had conquered his senses. As a result it became possible for him to conquer all the three worlds. But his senses were waiting for the right time to have their revenge, and when Ravana slackened his discipline, they came back and trapped him. Andal in Her Thiruppavai, verse 5, talks of our sins being burnt by our worship of Him. Here She uses the word *pugutharuvaan*. That means the sins waiting for us, sins we are yet to commit, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi, in a discourse.

She says that worshipping Him gets rid of not only sins we have committed, but our devotion to Him will destroy the sins we are going to commit. This shows that sins are not easy to avoid, and have to be on guard against sins all the time.

When Ravana had conquered his senses, he was a powerful king, who was feared even by Indra. But his senses lay in wait, and made up for their defeat, by leading him down the wrong path. Ravana was being slowly destroyed by his arrogance and ego. It is said that people look for something to take away, when a house catches fire. Nampillai compares Ravana to a burning house, from which Vibhishana and Sita were looking for something useful! But what could they find? How could there be any good in Ravana? They looked for some corner of his heart, which was untouched by sin, where their advice would find acceptance.

Ravana might have been burning in a fire of his own doing, but they thought that perhaps he could still be saved, if their appeal touched him. They looked hard for some soft spot in him, but found none. Ravana did not heed them and was destroyed completely, caught in the fire of desire and pride.

China's PLA museum highlights 1962 war, Galwan Valley clashes

The main focus of the exhibition in Beijing's Military Museum is on President Xi Jinping's contribution, which is placed on a par with Mao, in shaping the PLA

ANANTH KRISHNAN
BEIJING

A new exhibition curated by China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) in Beijing's Military Museum and visited by President Xi Jinping last month has highlighted both the 1962 war and the Galwan Valley clashes, and cast the blame on India for both.

Both 1962 and Galwan are featured in exhibits in the sprawling exhibition in the Military Museum, which has attracted large crowds in Beijing since its reopening to the public on Tuesday. The exhibition showcases 95 years of the PLA's history, and particularly highlights the reforms of the Xi era. Mr. Xi visited the exhibition on July 28, days before the 95th anniversary of the PLA which fell on August 1.

The main focus of the PLA exhibition is on Mr. Xi's contribution, which is placed on a par with Mao, in shaping the PLA, which is unique among militaries in being the armed forces of a political party. Of the four sections of the exhibition, one is dedicated to Mao and one to Mr. Xi. One section focuses on the PLA's early history from its founding in 1927 to the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, while a fourth section lists the contributions of former leaders Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao together.

Closer look: A view of the new exhibition curated by China's PLA in Beijing's Military Museum. • ANANTH KRISHNAN

The Xi era

The section on Mr. Xi's era is the largest. Among the exhibits that highlight the military's modernisation are a panel on the Galwan Valley clash on June 15, 2020, and tributes to PLA soldiers who died in the clash.

The exhibits have underlined how border tensions with India are receiving more prominent attention in China than previously. Ahead of the 60th anniversary of the 1962 India-China war in October, official Chinese military researchers have also compiled a new history of the war, describing it as a "forgotten" war after being downplayed for years, unlike the wars with Japan or in Korea, as ties with India warmed.

There is also an exhibit on the 1962 war, which blames India for the conflict, completely turning on its head the events that led to China's massive attack on India in October 1962.

"China and India have never formally demarcated their borders in their past. There is only a traditional customary line formed according to the administrative jurisdiction of both sides," it says. "After August 1959, the Indian army invaded Chinese territory many times, causing armed border conflicts. In October 1962, the Indian army launched a large-scale attack and Chinese border defence forces were forced to fight back in self defence. It lasted 33 days and the military recovered the Chinese territory occupied by the Indian army after August 1959."

Incidentally, Beijing has recently once again referred to the 1959 LAC in justifying its transgressions across the LAC in April 2020. The Galwan Valley clash in June 2020, which marked the worst violence on the border since 1967 and saw 20 Indian soldiers lose their lives and at least four Chinese soldiers killed, is also marked in an exhibit.

As with the 1962 exhibit, India is portrayed as the aggressor, with a video showing Indian soldiers in Galwan Valley. The exhibit describes safeguarding the border as a "core interest" of China.

A separate panel honours Chen Hongjun, one of the PLA soldiers who died in the clash and was posthumously awarded the Party's highest medal by Mr. Xi, saying he was "an outstanding representative of revolutionary soldiers in the new era" and "during the battle with foreign troops, fought bravely and made heroic sacrifices for defending the territorial sovereignty of the motherland and safeguarding the core interests of the country."

"We will maintain the security and stability of border defence, strengthen border control, and strictly guard against all kinds of encroachment, infiltration, destruction and harassment," it declares.

Karakoram stone

The museum also displays a "Karakoram stone" sent from the border by the PLA, and visitors are encouraged to press a button to show their support for the border troops. A board shows that more than 3 lakh visitors had done so.

The broader aim of the exhibit is to drum up public support for the PLA amid ongoing tensions with the U.S., Taiwan and other disputes, and ahead of the upcoming 20th Party Congress when Mr. Xi begins a third term. As part of the emotional appeal, personal belongings of "martyrs" are shown, including diaries and notebooks of soldiers who died in 1962.

Mr. Xi, during his visit to the exhibition, said since the Party Congress in 2012, when he came to power, the Party had been "leading the armed forces in enhancing their political loyalty" and "intensifying military training for better combat readiness".

Taiwan says China's threat still remains

Tsai says island will not provoke disputes; number of Chinese jets, warships crossing median line drops

REUTERS
TAIPEI

China's threat of force is undiminished, Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen said on Thursday, even though Beijing's largest ever military drills around the island seemed to be scaling down.

Furious about a visit to Chinese-claimed Taiwan last week by U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, China launched ballistic missiles and deployed multiple aircraft and warships in recent days to simulate sea and air attacks.

Patrols to continue

China said on Wednesday it would keep up patrols but had "completed various tasks" around Taiwan, signalling a possible end to the war games even while keeping up pressure.

Staying prepared: Soldiers fire 155 mm howitzers during a military drill in Pingtung county, southern Taiwan. • REUTERS

Taiwan has also been conducting relatively small-scale, annual exercises, scheduled before the flare-up and aimed at preparing to repel an invasion.

"At present, the threat of Chinese military force has not decreased," Ms. Tsai told Air Force officers, according to a statement from her office.

Taiwan will not escalate conflict nor provoke disputes, her office quoted her as saying, adding: "We will firmly defend our sovereignty and national security, and adhere to the line of defence of democracy and freedom."

A source said that the number of warships close to the Taiwan Strait's median line, an unofficial buffer, was "greatly reduced" from previous days.

But several Chinese Navy ships were conducting missions off Taiwan's east coast and near Japan's Yonaguni island on Thursday, said the source familiar with security planning.

Yonaguni is the Japanese island closest to Taiwan, about 100 km away.

Taiwan's Defence Ministry said in a statement on Thursday it had detected 21 Chinese military aircraft and six Chinese naval ships in and around the Taiwan Strait, of which 11 planes had crossed over the median line.

That was down from the 36 aircraft and 10 ships detected the previous day, when 17 aircraft crossed the median line.

'Russia is a state sponsor of terrorism'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
RIGA

Latvian parliamentarians on Thursday declared Russia a "state sponsor of terrorism" whose actions in Ukraine constitute "targeted genocide against the Ukrainian people".

Voting by 67 in favour and none against in Latvia's legislature, MPs said they considered "Russia's violence against civilians in pursuit of political aims as terrorism".

Ukraine hailed the resolution as a "timely move".

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman condemned the vote as "primal xenophobia".

Taliban cleric killed in Kabul explosion: officials

Haqqani had survived previous attacks

REUTERS
KABUL

A prominent Taliban cleric, Sheikh Rahimullah Haqqani, was killed in an attack in a seminary in Kabul when the attacker detonated explosives hidden in a plastic artificial leg on Thursday, according to officials and Taliban sources.

"Very sadly informed that respected cleric (Sheikh Rahimullah Haqqani) was martyred in a cowardly attack by enemies," said Bilal Karimi, a spokesperson for the Taliban administration.

It was not immediately clear who was behind the blast.

Four Taliban sources said the attacker was someone who had previously lost his leg and had hidden the explosives in a plastic artificial leg.

Haqqani was a prominent cleric in the Taliban, who had survived previous attacks, including a large blast in Peshawar in 2020 claimed by the Islamic State that killed at least seven people.

The Taliban say they have restored security since they took over almost a year ago. However, regular attacks have taken place in recent months, often targeting religious and ethnic minorities.

ELSEWHERE

France battles 'monster' wildfire near Bordeaux

HOSTEN
More than 1,000 firefighters, backed by water-bombing aircraft, battled a "monster" wildfire near Bordeaux for a third day on Thursday. France is in the grip of its worst drought on record, with a fourth heatwave of the summer sweeping across the country this week. AFP

Gotabaya Rajapaksa arrives in Bangkok

BANGKOK
Former Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Thursday arrived in Bangkok after his visa ran out following a month-long stint in Singapore, where he had taken refuge from protesters at home. Mr. Rajapaksa flew into Singapore from the Maldives on July 14. AFP

China vows $118 million in assistance to Nepal

Khadka, Wang meet in Qingdao

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KATHMANDU

China has pledged $118 million in aid to Nepal and announced a slew of trade concessions while vowing to speed up work on the stalled BRI projects.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi announced the concessions for Nepal in his meeting with his Nepalese counterpart Narayan Khadka in the eastern Chinese city of Qingdao on Wednesday.

Mr. Khadka was on his first visit to China since Sher Bahadur Deuba took over as Prime Minister of Nepal, replacing the pro-Beijing K.P. Sharma Oli last year. Under Mr. Deuba, Kathmandu struck a more balanced foreign policy, firming up ties with India and with the U.S.

Early this year, China expressed concern over the Nepal Parliament's ratification of the contentious U.S.-funded $500 million Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compact, ending a deadlock between the Nepalese political parties.

Mr. Wang said China would fund the feasibility study of the China-Nepal cross-border railway via Tibet over which experts have raised concerns about the likely damage it could cause to the fragile ecosystem.

China will offer zero tariff treatment for 98% of export items from Nepal that will come into effect from September 1 this year, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said.

Mr. Khadka also reiterated Nepal's unwavering commitment to the one-China policy .

'IS member' charged in U.K. with terrorism

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

An alleged member of an Islamic State group cell nicknamed "The Beatles" that tortured and killed Western hostages was charged with terrorism offences in Britain on Thursday after being deported from Turkey.

Aine Davis, 38, was arrested at Luton Airport north of London on Wednesday after arriving on a flight from Turkey and charged with offences under the Terrorism Act, the Metropolitan Police Service said.

The militants dubbed "The Beatles" by their captives because of their British accents, held about two dozen Westerners a decade ago, when IS controlled a large swath of Syria and Iraq.

North Korea claims victory over COVID-19

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has declared victory over COVID-19 and ordered preventive measures eased, claiming the country's widely disputed success would be recognised as a global health miracle. The move came just three months after the country acknowledged an Omicron outbreak.

The North's official *Korean Central News Agency* also reported on Thursday that Mr. Kim's sister said her brother had suffered a fever and blamed the North Korean outbreak on leaflets flown from South Korea, while warning of deadly retaliation. North Korea reported 4.8 million "fever cases" and 74 deaths but only identified a fraction as COVID-19.

Dozens in China infected with Langya virus found in shrews

There is no evidence of human-to-human transmission

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BEIJING

Dozens of people in China have fallen ill with a new virus that is also found in shrews, a report has said, but there is so far no evidence of human-to-human transmission.

The infections were found in China's eastern Shandong and central Henan provinces, affecting 35 people, according to a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* this month.

The virus is called Langya henipavirus or LayV, and patients reported symptoms that include fever, fatigue, cough, nausea and headaches. Some people also developed blood cell abnormalities and impaired liver and kidney functions, the report said.

Shrews may be a reservoir for the pathogen, suggest findings. • ISTOCKPHOTO

Research findings suggested shrews may be a natural reservoir for the pathogen. "There was no close contact or common exposure history among the patients, which suggests that the infection in the human population may be sporadic," according to the report.

But it also cautioned that its sample size "was too small to determine the status of human-to-human transmission for LayV".

Patients were mostly farmers and cases were found with help from a detection system for people with acute fever and a history of animal exposure, it added.

Further investigation is needed to better understand illnesses associated with the virus, according to the researchers in China, Singapore and Australia who were involved in the paper.

Cases of Langya henipavirus have so far not been fatal or very serious, Linfa Wang of the Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore, told Chinese state outlet *Global Times*.

Mr. Wang was one of the researchers involved in writing the paper.

MARKET WATCH

	11-08-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,313	0.88
US Dollar	79.62	-0.46
Gold	52,709	-0.19
Brent oil	99.65	3.43

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	792.75	2.20
Apollo Hosp	4429.65	-87.50
Asian Paints	3405.20	-6.45
Axis Bank	758.85	19.85
Bajaj Auto	4033.50	-1.35
Bajaj Finserv	15736.95	93.75
Bajaj Finance	7318.95	169.55
Bharti Airtel	709.80	-5.45
BPCL	328.35	0.05
Britannia Ind	3640.30	-7.45
Cipla	1038.40	0.05
Coal India	218.60	-1.25
Divis Lab	3948.05	-0.75
Dr Reddys Lab	4258.30	15.00
Eicher Motors	3176.45	21.90
Grasim Ind	1600.05	-10.85
HCL Tech	962.35	10.30
HDFC	2454.85	56.55
HDFC Bank	1485.70	19.40
HDFC Life	541.55	0.65
Hero MotoCorp	2785.30	9.85
Hindalco	433.50	-6.60
Hind Unilever	2613.70	-29.10
ICICI Bank	859.70	10.95
Indusind Bank	1079.20	16.10
Infosys	1619.95	17.50
ITC	306.25	-4.95
JSW Steel	673.60	3.50
Kotak Bank	1853.50	25.15
L&T	1867.15	12.00
M&M	1266.20	-1.85
Maruti Suzuki	8813.85	-65.85
Nestle India Ltd.	19679.60	-88.90
NTPC	153.65	-2.10
ONGC	132.80	-1.00
PowerGrid Corp	222.85	-0.65
Reliance Ind	2591.10	8.60
SBI Life	1261.50	-11.70
State Bank	524.75	10.05
Shree Cement	21192.95	88.05
Sun Pharma	921.05	1.35
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	773.45	-17.10
Tata Motors	476.65	1.10
Tata Steel	109.10	-0.10
TCS	3422.50	68.25
Tech Mahindra	1077.25	22.05
Titan	2472.35	38.75
UltraTech Cement	6597.10	1.45
UPL	767.50	2.20
Wipro	438.45	8.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 11

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.44	79.76
Euro	82.06	82.39
British Pound	96.90	97.30
Japanese Yen (100)	59.88	60.12
Chinese Yuan	11.78	11.83
Swiss Franc	84.36	84.70
Singapore Dollar	58.00	58.24
Canadian Dollar	62.20	62.46
Malaysian Ringitt	17.86	17.95
Australian Dollar	56.37	56.60

Source: Indian Bank

'CAD will ease as commodity prices dip'

Items that guzzled foreign exchange are seeing price declines, says government official

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Concerns about India's trade and current account deficits are likely to dissipate in view of the recent decline in global commodity prices, a top government official said on Thursday, asserting that criticism which equated the country's import duties to a protectionist approach in trade was misplaced.

"Most of the foreign exchange guzzlers that have led to a wider trade deficit for India are seeing a decline in prices in the last few days, be it crude oil, fertilizers, or even coal and gold. When prices are down, the current account deficit will also go down over time," the official explained. India's monthly goods trade deficit has hit record highs in the past few months, peaking in July, when it crossed $31 billion. With exports growth slowing down and imports continuing to rise sharply, driven by higher prices of commodities with inelastic demand, economists expect the current account deficit to cross 3% of GDP this year from 1.2% in 2021-22.

Think local: Broadly, goods whose demand can be met locally will attract customs duties, the official said. • K.R. DEEPAK

On the imposition of import duties on goods over the last couple of years, the official stressed just counting the items since the unveiling

> **If the Centre could give even 50% more funds to States than their monthly dues, we will do it**

of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat programme was misleading as it suggested an 'inward looking' stance. "Unlike in the past, when customs duties were tweaked in an indiscreet and uncalibrated manner, often to suit just one business or another, our approach to imposing tariffs is driven by item-wise data analysis. Broadly, goods whose demand can be met locally will attract customs duties," the official said.

Tax transfers to States

The Centre plans to devolve more funds to the States from their share of the divisible pool of taxes whenever it is possible, in a bid to drive faster spending on capital projects at the ground level, the official added.

On Wednesday, the Centre released more than ₹1.16 lakh crore to States as their share for August, equivalent to two monthly instalments of tax devolution.

'Action belongs to States'

"If we are able to give even 50% more funds to States than their monthly instalment, we will give it right away," the official said.

"This is vital because action happens in the States and the Centre is not interested in keeping their funds in its accounts for even a single extra day," the official pointed out.

Indices surge to 4-month high on finance, IT stocks

Rupee drops 37 paise despite inflows

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices on Tuesday surged to their four-month closing highs, tracking gains in global markets following the softer-than-expected inflation rate for the U.S.

Backed by gains in financial and technology stocks, the S&P BSE Sensex gained 515.31 points, or 0.88%, to 59,332.60. Stocks that gained the most in the Sensex pack included Axis Bank (2.75%), Bajaj Finance (2.36%), HDFC (2.32%), Tech Mahindra (2.12%), TCS (1.98%) and State Bank (1.95%).

The rupee depreciated by 37 paise to 79.62 against the U.S. dollar on Thursday despite sustained foreign capital inflows and a positive trend in equities.

The NSE Nifty-50 index too climbed 124.25 points, or 0.71%, to 17,659 points.

"As softer-than-expected U.S. inflation data suggested a slower pace of rate hike, the global market encouraged optimism," said Vinod Nair, head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

(With PTI inputs)

Monsoon bodes well for prices, says govt. official

'Price rise due to war now dissipating'

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

The promising monsoon augurs well for India's battle against high inflation, a top government official said on Thursday, ahead of July's retail inflation data expected on Friday.

Consumer price inflation was at 7.01% in June and 7.04% in May, after touching 7.85% in April, the highest in almost eight years. But, the government said it believed worries of a prolonged phase of price rise that had cropped up after the onset of the Russia-Ukraine conflict had dissipated.

"While various measures by the government and the RBI to rein in prices have begun showing results, the monsoon's performance so

far is half the battle won. Yes, there are concerns about cloud bursts and inadequate rains in some parts, and we have to keep an eye on this," the official said. Inflation is not just about the headline number but about items causing it and hurting the poor the most, so the Centre has stepped in wherever prices have seen sharp spurts, the official added.

Govt. diverts gas for city use to cool prices

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Oil Ministry has ordered the diversion of natural gas from industry to the city gas distribution sector to cool CNG and piped cooking-gas prices that have shot up by 70%.

Less than three months after it ordered the use of costlier imported LNG to meet the incremental demand for automobile fuel CNG and household kitchen gas PNG, the Ministry on August 10 reverted to an old policy of primarily supplying domestically produced gas for city gas operations. The move follows a massive jump in CNG and PNG prices in the country in the last one year as operators used costlier imported liquefied natural gas.

War, U.S. inflation hitting global demand, say MSME exporters

Sector seeks govt. intervention, warns of orders drying up

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Facing slowdown in demand in the global markets due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, MSME exporters have sought immediate intervention by the government to deal with the situation, industry players said.

The dip in demand may impact the country's exports in the coming months, they added.

Ludhiana Hand Tools Association president S.C. Ralhan said the industry was passing through "acute recession" in both domestic and international markets.

"At the moment, we are getting very small orders," he said.

Most of the exporters said they had orders for only one or two months.

"This scenario would impact exports growth," Mr. Ralhan added.

Dalpat Forge (India) manager Ashwani Aggarwal said the demand situation was "bad" in both domestic as well as global markets such as the U.S. and Europe.

"There are demand issues mainly in the U.S. due to high inflation there. We, as exporters, are planning how to deal with this slowdown," said Farida Group chairman Rafeeq Ahmed.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) vice chairman Khalid Khan added that the order book position was "bad."

Exports dipped, though marginally, for the first time in 17 months in July, while trade deficit tripled to a record $31 billion fuelled by a more than 70% increase in crude oil imports.

The MSME sector accounts for close to 40% of India's exports.

Mills' cotton use may dip as demand slides

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

Cotton consumption by textile mills has declined in recent months and is expected to clock 283 lakh bales (non-SSI mills) between October 2021 and September 2022, according to an estimate by Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption.

The Committee, which reviewed the cotton supply and demand position on Wednesday, said cotton consumption by SSI mills would be 19 lakh bales and for non-textile purposes, it would be 16 lakh bales.

Industry sources said several textile mills have reduced production due to low demand for yarn. This has led to a drop in demand for cotton.

IN BRIEF

GoM to submit report on taxing casinos soon

NEW DELHI

A panel of State Finance Ministers on taxation of casinos and online gaming is likely to submit its report to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in a day or two, government sources said on Thursday. The GST Council is likely to meet towards this month end or early next month and discuss the report of the Group of Ministers. PTI

Va Tech Wabag Q1 net doubles to ₹25 crore

CHENNAI

Water treatment company Va Tech Wabag Ltd. reported standalone first-quarter net profit more than doubled to ₹25 crore. Revenue from operations rose to ₹485 crore (₹470 crore). The firm had an order-book position of more than ₹10,500 crore, it said. "Our order-book position, which has remained over ₹10,000 crore consistently, provides confidence for our future revenues," Rajiv Mittal, CMD & Group CEO, said.

Apollo Hospitals Q1 net doubles

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. (AHEL) reported standalone net profit (from continuing operations) or the first quarter has more than doubled to ₹333 crore from ₹107 crore in the year-earlier period.

Revenue from operations grew to ₹1,530 crore from ₹1,483 crore, AHEL said in a statement.

The company said that the profit for the quarter included deferred taxes worth ₹152 crore.

"The first quarter of the new financial year has seen a definitive increase in the demand for non-COVID health services and augurs well for growth this financial year," said Dr. Pratap C. Reddy, chairman, Apollo Hospital Group.

Coir exports grew 15% to ₹4,340 crore: Board

'FY23 shipments may cross ₹5,000 cr.'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

Coir exports in 2021-2022 were worth ₹4,340.05 crore, registering 14.8% growth in value compared with 2020-2021, according to the Coir Board.

In terms of quantity, exports grew 6.2% to 12.34 lakh tonnes against 11.63 lakh tonnes, D. Kuppuramu, Chairman of the Board, said in an interview.

'Value addition is key'

"There is a demand in the overseas market for agro-based products from India," he said. "Our exporters should focus on value addition. That is what the Board is focussing on."

Value-added products contributed to 33% of the exports last financial year.

Coir pith exports were worth ₹2,259.18 crore and tufted mats, ₹1,001.15 crore. Coir fibre exports had declined because of lower imports by China.

The Board expected coir exports to surpass ₹5,000 crore this fiscal.

"The industry should prioritise value-added products. Price realisation will also be better for such products," the Coir Board Chairman added.

NMDC raises iron ore prices

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Mining major NMDC has increased iron ore prices by ₹200 per tonne of lump ore and ₹100 for the same quantity of fines.

Effective August 11, the new prices are ₹4,100 for lump ore and ₹2,910 for fines, the State-owned company said on Thursday. This is the first upward revision by NMDC this fiscal. From ₹6,100 for lump ore and ₹5,160 for fines on April 1, the prices had been on a decline. During the previous revision on July 12 they were set at ₹3,900 and ₹2,810 respectively. The prices, however, had firmed up in the first quarter of CY22. The April prices for the lump and fines were ₹1,200 and ₹1,100 more respectively than the ₹4,900 and ₹4,060 fixed on December 28.

Foray into children's wear paying dividends: Page

'Tier 2, 3 centres crucial marketplaces'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Page Industries said foraying into the children's wear segment through exclusive womenswear stores was a smart thing to do.

"Our strategy of introducing kids wear across exclusive womenswear stores has shown good results and we are confident of making inroads into this nascent and fast-growing segment," MD V.S. Ganesh said.

Page is the exclusive licensee of Jockey International Inc. (USA) for the manufacture, distribution and marketing of the Jockey brand in India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Maldives, Bhutan and the UAE. Tier 2 and 3 centres were also becoming important marketplaces for

> **We are confident of making inroads into this nascent and fast-growing segment**
>
> V.S. GANESH
> Managing Director, Page Industries

given increased awareness of healthy lifestyles and availability of quality, functional innerwear and athleisure wear.

The firm had posted a multi-fold rise in net profit to ₹207 crore and an almost threefold growth in revenue to ₹13,41.3 crore in Q1FY23.

"Riding on the back of strong sales performance and robust financial planning, despite external challenges, we have successfully delivered yet another milestone performance this quarter," Mr. Ganesh said.

Aurobindo Pharma Q1 net drops 32%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Drugmaker Aurobindo Pharma reported first-quarter consolidated net profit slid more than 32% to ₹520.3 crore.

The net profit declined on an almost 9% rise in net sales to ₹6,176.8 crore.

Total income at ₹6,276.5 crore (₹5,811.8 crore) was almost 8% higher. The EBITDA margin stood at 15.5% as against 21.2% in the year-earlier period.

"We delivered a good performance amid challenging environment while reinforcing our growth pillars," Vice-Chairman and MD K. Nithyananda Reddy said. "Investments in product portfolio continued at a healthy pace as reflected in the filings and launches in the quarter."

SPORT

Mirra claims Bangalore Summer Million

BENGALURU: Ameeta Mehra's Mirra (Akshay Kumar up) won the Bangalore Summer Million, the feature event of the races held here on Thursday (August 11).

The winner is trained by Arjun Mangalorkar.

Jockey Akshay Kumar won four races on the day.

THE RESULTS:

1. MUGHAL GARDEN STAKES (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25:

TIGER RETURNS (Nazerul) 1, Blazing Engine (Akshay K) 2, Red Lucifer (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Osibisa (Vaibhav) 4. 5-3/4, 4-1/2 and 1. 1m, 16.04s.

₹24 (w), 15, 20 and 34 (p), SHP: 57, THP: 56, FP: 262, Q: 121, Trinella: 1,424 and 568, Exacta: 46,676 and 20,004. Favourite: Tiger Returns.

Owner: Mr. Shiju Vazhapully Joseph.

Trainer: Faraz Arshad.

2. WINSLOW STAKES (DIV. II), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms):

MY SOLITAIRE (Akshay K) 1, Mandela (Hindu S) 2, Emma (Likith) 3 and Stars Above (Vinod Shinde) 4. Not run: Quick Witted and The Strikingly. 4, 3/4 and 8-3/4. 1m, 16.07s.

₹19 (w), 11, 12 and 23 (p), SHP: 26, THP: 47, FP: 31, Q: 13, Trinella: 137 and 122, Exacta: 269 and 81. Favourite: Mandela.

Owner: Sans Craintes Stud Farm [p] LID.

Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

3. MUSSOORIE STAKES (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over:

IMPERIAL BLUE (L.A. Rozario) 1, Divine Ray (Akshay K) 2, Capable (G. Vivek) 3 and Silverita (Hindu S) 4. 4, 1-1/4 and 2-1/2. 1m, 40.52s.

₹35 (w), 15, 13 and 19 (p), SHP: 35, THP: 32, FP: 228, Q: 128, Trinella: 796 and 455, Exacta: 4,957 and 2,549. Favourite: Imperial Blue.

Owner: M/s. Arun Alagappan Racing LLP.

Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.

4. WINSLOW STAKES (DIV. I), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms):

STAR ADMIRAL (Srinath) 1, Empire Of Dreams (Akshay K) 2, Loch Lomond (Hindu S) 3 and Tripitaka (T.S. Jodha) 4. 2-1/4, Nk and 6-3/4. 1m, 15.24s.

₹25 (w), 12, 13 and 17 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 46, FP: 98, Q: 49, Trinella: 320 and 191, Exacta: 822 and 301. Favourite: Star Admiral.

Owner: Mr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust.

Trainer: G. Aravind.

5. KIMBERLEY STAKES (1,200m), rated 60 to 85:

THOUSAND WORDS (Akshay K) 1, Tactical Command (S. John) 2, Lucky Chance (J.H. Arul) 3 and Griffin (L.A. Rozario) 4. Not run: Hukum. Snk, 4-1/4 and 10-1/2. 1m, 14.47s.

₹40 (w), 16 and 14 (p), SHP: 25, THP: 30, FP: 183, Q: 64, Trinella: 1,065 and 469, Exacta: 1,172 and 636. Favourite: De Villiers.

Owner: Mr. Dayanand Kachuwah.

Trainer: Faraz Arshad.

6. BANGALORE SUMMER MILLION (1,600m), 3-y-o, (Terms):

MIRRA (Akshay K) 1, Ravishing Form (Trevor) 2, Victoria Punch (T.S. Jodha) 3 and Shabelle (Sandesh) 4. 3-3/4, 2-1/4 and 1-1/2. 1m, 39.41s.

₹29 (w), 13, 15 and 19 (p), SHP: 37, THP: 40, FP: 130, Q: 51, Trinella: 557 and 369, Exacta: 1,320 and 422. Favourite: Mirra.

Owner: Ms. Ameeta Mehra.

Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

7. KANVA STAKES (1,200m), rated 40 to 65:

AZTEC QUEEN (Akshay K) 1, Golden Vision (Saddam H) 2, The Inheritor (Suraj) 3 and Alberetta (Salman K) 4. 1-3/4, 1/2 and 3-3/4. 1m, 14.56s.

₹49 (w), 15, 38 and 11 (p), SHP: 92, THP: 66, FP: 1,043, Q: 613, Trinella: 1,550 and 359, Exacta: 10,017 and 7,513. Favourite: The Inheritor.

Owner: Mr. Chitturi Krishna Kannaiah.

Trainer: Kishan Thomas.

8. HIMALAYA STAKES (1,200m), rated 20 to 45:

LADY SUPREMOS (Rayan) 1, Domina (S. John) 2, Silver Swift (G. Vivek) 3 and Altair (Arvind K) 4. 1, 1/2 and 1. 1m, 17.03s.

₹34 (w), 14, 14 and 55 (p), SHP: 33, THP: 125, FP: 84, Q: 40, Trinella: 921 and 585, Exacta: 9,582 and 3,422. Favourite: Inexhaustible.

Owners: Mr. Daulat Chhabria & Mrs. Radhika Narredu.

Trainer: S. Narredu.

9. MUGHAL GARDEN STAKES (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25:

FOVEAL VISION (S. John) 1, Solo Prince (G. Vivek) 2, She's All Class (Srinath) 4 and Pastiche (Darshan) 4. Not run: Fierce Fighter. 3/4, 1-3/4 and 5-1/2. 1m, 15.90s.

₹85 (w), 20, 15 and 11 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 53, FP: 381, Q: 205, Trinella: 670 and 207, Exacta: 2,611 and 1,448. Favourite: She's All Class.

Owners: Mr. P. Prasanna Kumar & Mr. Dean Stephens.

Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

Jackpot: ₹7,488 (12 tkts.); Runner-up: 458 (84 tkts.); Treble (i): 379 (15 tkts.); (ii): 409 (21 tkts.); (iii): 1,057 (10 tkts.).

Lake Tahoe well prepared, expected to score in the Governor's Cup

BENGALURU: Lake Tahoe, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Governor's Cup (2,400m), the chief event of the races to be held here on Friday (Aug. 12). False rails will be declared on the race day.

1 FAREWELL PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Tyto Alba (8) Angad 62, 2. Eco Friendly (9) Sai Kumar 61.5, 3. Amazonite (10) B. Nayak 61, 4. Bramastram (12) Nazerul 60.5, 5. Benignity (2) A. Imran 60, 6. Fierce Fighter (5) G. Vivek 59.5, 7. Commandpost (1) B. Harish 58, 8. Silent Triggar (3) P. Surya 56, 9. Activated (6) Salman K 55, 10. Sand Castles (11) Vivek 55, 11. Regal Force (7) Hasib A 52.5 and 12. Ultimate Power (4) S. Saqlain 51.5.

1. BRAMASTRAM, 2. TYTO ALBA, 3. ECO FRIENDLY

2 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY CUP (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Aldgate (6) Trevor 56, 2. Kalamitsi (8) Srinath 56, 3. King Of War (1) Darshan 56, 4. Monteverdi (7) Akshay K 56, 5. Raffles (5) Rayan 56, 6. Tignanello (2) P.S. Chouhan 56, 7. Oasis Class (4) Kirtish B 54.5 and 8. Secret Lady (3) Hindu S 54.5.

1. ALDGATE, 2. MONTEVERDI, 3. TIGNANELLO

3 OWN OPINION TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 3-00: 1. Colonel Harty (10) Angad 60.5, 2. Imperial Power (3) Suraj 60.5, 3. Kensington (9) S. John 59, 4. Moon's Blessing (5) Akshay K 56, 5. Scribbling Hopper (4) Srinath 56, 6. Peluche (7) J.H. Arul 55.5, 7. Devils Magic (8) Hindu S 53.5, 8. Four Wheel Drive (2) G. Vivek 53.5, 9. Indian Pharaoh (6) Nazerul 52.5 and 10. Ombudsman (1) S. Saqlain 52.5.

1. IMPERIAL POWER, 2. MOON'S BLESSING, 3. KENSINGTON

4 COL. DESRAJ URS CUP (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 3-30: 1. Forever Together (5) Suraj 60, 2. Watchmystars (4) P.S. Chouhan 58.5, 3. Whizzo (2) Darshan 57.5, 4. Caracas (6) Akshay K 56, 5. Promise Kept (3) Trevor 56 and 6. Prince Abir (1) Shreyas S 54.5.

1. CARACAS, 2. FOREVER TOGETHER

5 GOVERNOR'S CUP (2,400m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Giant Star (3) Yash 60, 2. Pissarro (5) Trevor 59, 3. Truly Epic (1) Akshay K 59, 4. Lake Tahoe (2) P.S. Chouhan 57.5 and 5. Silvarius (4) S. John 57.5.

1. LAKE TAHOE, 2. GIANT STAR

6 HARANGI STAKES (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Harmonia (7) Salman K 62, 2. Habanero (2) Mark 57, 3. Ocean Dunes (10) Mudassar 57, 4. Queen Of Sands (3) Nazerul 57, 5. Air Blast (11) R. Pradeep 56.5, 6. Golden Time (5) G. Vivek 55.5, 7. Black Whizz (9) J.H. Arul 54.5, 8. Impeccable (1) Vinod Shinde 53, 9. Osiris (4) Arvind K 53, 10. Elite Agent (6) Angad 52.5 and 11. Skyfire (8) P. Surya 51.5.

1. GOLDEN TIME, 2. IMPECCABLE, 3. HABANERO

7 LESTER PIGGOTT STAKES (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Muirfield (7) S. John 60, 2. Mitsuro (11) G. Vivek 59, 3. Montelena (12) P.S. Chouhan 58.5, 4. Aguila (9) Srinath 58, 5. Inyouwebelieve (10) Trevor 58, 6. Remontoir (3) Tousif 57, 7. Aferpi (4) Angad 56, 8. Je Ne Sais Quoi (8) Kirtish B 55.5, 9. Breeze Bluster (1) S. Saqlain 55, 10. Kings Speech (2) B. Nayak 54.5, 11. Art Power (6) Vinod Shinde 52.5 and 12. Rorito (5) Rayan 52.5.

1. MONTELENA, 2. INYOUWEBELIEVE, 3. AGUILA

8 HARANGI STAKES (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5-30: 1. Southern Power (12) Akshay K 62.5, 2. See My Heels (7) M. Naveen 60.5, 3. Baltimore (6) S. John 60, 4. Classic Charm (9) Darshan 60, 5. Chisox (2) L.A. Rozario 58.5, 6. Benediction (10) Kirtish B 58, 7. Dr Logan (11) P.S. Chouhan 58, 8. War Eagle (5) Nazerul 58, 9. Anne Boleyn (4) J.H. Arul 57, 10. Striking Memory (8) G. Vivek 56.5, 11. Stunning Beauty (3) Sai Kumar 55.5 and 12. Mr Humble (1) P. Surya 53.

1. BENEDICTION, 2. SEE MY HEELS, 3. STUNNING BEAUTY

Day's best: **ALDGATE**

Double: **IMPERIAL POWER — LAKE TAHOE**

Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; Tr (i): 3, 4 and 5; (ii): 6, 7 and 8.

A BG-BLE

'Hope the historic bronze will inspire more girls to take up chess'

Humpy believes the game's popularity will increase in the country after the Olympiad, feels there are a number of world-class youngsters in the Indian men's game

44TH OLYMPIAD

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
CHENNAI

On the final day of the Chess Olympiad at Mamallapuram, a woman, in her 40s, rushed to Koneru Humpy shortly after she finished her game. The female superstar of Indian chess had drawn her game on the top board with Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova, an Uzbekistan-born United States player.

The woman wanted to know how the rest of the Indian team was faring. She had been watching the games from the spectator area.

"Will we win gold?" she asked Humpy. It was unlikely, she replied. It hadn't been a good day in the last round match against the United States: both Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni were in clearly inferior positions.

The woman told her that she was praying for an Indian victory. The prayers were not answered, and Humpy's team – India 1 – had to finish with a bronze despite being the favourite, top seed and host.

Humpy's meeting with the unknown woman and the enthusiasm with which Chennai, and the rest of the country – fans flew down from various States – responded to the Olympiad is a story in itself. Never before has chess in India struck a chord with the spectators the way it did at Mamallapuram.

Humpy is pleasantly surprised when she is told that the woman she met would have probably shelled out ₹3,000 to buy a ticket for the Olympiad. "No, I didn't know that," she says. "It is great to see people are willing to pay to watch chess games. Normally in India you wouldn't find an audience even when the entry is free."

She believes that the game's popularity in the country will increase rapidly after the Olympiad. She hopes the historic bronze India won will inspire more girls to take up the game.

Indian women's chess does need fresh talent. A lack of depth in the women's game is among the few things that aren't right with Indian chess at the moment.

If Humpy's team still made history – it was India's first ever medal in the Women's Olympiad – it was because of the intrinsic quality in the squad, which also featured D. Harika, R. Vaishali, Tania and Bhakti.

"We definitely need young girls to come through," says Humpy, who turned collecting age-group World titles into a hobby. "I am glad to find that Vaishali is showing a lot of improvement. Girls like Divya Deshmukh (who won an individual bronze for India 2 as a reserve) show promise. I have also noticed the huge strides B. Savitha Shri has made. But we need more like them. Just look at the number of world-class youngsters in Indian men's chess."

Looking back at her own performance at the Olympiad, she says she was able to do better in the second half of the tournament.

"Considering the fact that I am playing classical chess after a gap of two years and a half, I am not too displeased," she says. "I knew much depended on Harika and me on the top boards. We missed (the pregnant) Harika in the last two rounds."

Experience and exuberance: Tania, Harika (seated), Humpy and the young Vaishali gave a good account of themselves while Divya, with some superb performances, finished on the podium as a reserve for India 2. • B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Afghanistan and Iran: fresh start, new hopes

SRINIVASAN RAMANI
LAVANYA L
MAMALLAPURAM

Battle on the board: Quraishi, second from left, acknowledged Iran's support in boosting the game in Afghanistan. • COURTESY: FIDE

While the chess community focused on the campaign of the war-affected Ukraine during the recently concluded Chess Olympiad at Mamallapuram, another nation – Afghanistan – recovering from a civil war found solace in the game.

Obaidullah Quraishi, head of the visiting delegation, was happy to find a person to speak with in Hindi at the visitor's expo centre here. A big Rajesh Khanna fan, he was delighted to be back in India.

"We enjoy a good relationship with Bharat Singh Chauhan (AICF secretary). We've come to India and participated in open tournaments and won cups and medals. (Amini) Habibullah has come as part of those teams and returned home with a ₹1 lakh prize too in 2016," he said.

Quraishi said there was no hindrance from the current Taliban regime for the all-men contingent at the Olympiad.

"It's because of their support that we're here. FIDE also chipped in, assisting us in travel to and from India," he said.

Quraishi hoped that the women back home who nurse chess ambitions will get an opportunity too.

"Chess is important, but for now, our players have all gone abroad to continue playing. For those still left in the country, we hope there will be some support from FIDE to help them get the right to play," he said.

The team in Chennai had received help from Iranian Grandmaster Amirreza Pourramezanali a few years ago. Rezza, as Quraishi addresses him, continues to track their progress and is quick to point out a big faultline in Afghanistan's current chess scene.

"They have talented players but need steady coaching and guidance. They need trainers, not for just one or two weeks but on a consistent basis. Afghanistan has the potential to produce titled players in the next five years provided these things are sorted out," he said.

Iran, among the three major chess-playing nations in Asia (besides China and India) is still dealing with the loss of one of its bright players Alireza Firouzja, who moved to France after the country's decision to not play Israel affected his opportunities.

While Rezza understood Firouzja's decision, he felt that his compatriots have enough role models.

"Ehsan Ghaem Maghami, the first GM, was the first inspirational figure, much like Viswanathan Anand for India. Now, Parham Maghsoodloo is quite popular," he said.

Opening up the game to more people should be one of Iran's priorities after the Olympiad, felt Rezza.

"Chess isn't that widespread in Iran at the school level and that is something we should work on. For women, too, the hijab mandate has proven an obstacle for many but players like Sara Khadem have broken through. We have hope for the future," Rezza said.

Not surprised Gukesh has gone this far, says coach Vishnu Prasanna

'Will try to improve his physical fitness so that he can endure long rounds'

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN
CHENNAI

After his breathless performance in the recently concluded Chess Olympiad, none might grudge Gukesh a break. But his coach Vishnu Prasanna on Thursday said that he'll play the Turkish League beginning August 15.

Gukesh has always wanted to keep playing, and Prasanna has "never stopped him."

But he adds that his ward would hereafter not be playing as much as he used to. "There won't be enough opens for him to play. Opens would not make sense after this. So, he would be playing in leagues and whatever invitations he gets in the closed events."

Gukesh with his coach Vishnu Prasanna. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Level of play

Speaking about the takeaways from the 16-year-old's Olympiad showing, he said: "Happy with his precision and level of play. We would focus on and try to improve his physical fitness so that he can endure the long rounds. Equalising better against (Fabiano) Caruana, and troubling (Shakhriyar) Mamedyarov more with white – both these are fairly important.

"I was very happy with his wins against (Alexei) Shirov and Caruana. He was very resourceful enough, even against Caruana!"

Prasanna, who has been coaching Gukesh since 2017, said the boy was "a lot disciplined and mature for an 11-year-old" when he first came to him. "I knew he was talented. But I couldn't predict how far he would go. I'm not surprised that he has gone this far. He had a lot of positional sense, which young kids usually don't have; they play for tricks."

More aggressive

He added that now Gukesh is more aggressive and "plays for dynamic positions." Gukesh is an avid reader, and Boris Gelfand's books are something that the master and pupil have discussed a lot.

On Gukesh and other contemporary Indian players breaching the 2700 Elo mark, he said: "He (Gukesh) had a series of wins (before the Olympiad). So, he had the momentum and was, more importantly, psychologically healthy to cross 2700.

"I think the approach – for how to get to the top – is a bit more clear now than like, say, 10 years ago. Now, young players get easier access to top-level play.

"Most of these kids have actually played Magnus (Carlsen) in an online event or something like that!"

A star and Usha's greatest rival

Former sprint queen Lydia de Vega loses battle with cancer

Worthy opponent: Lydia, edging out Usha, right, in the 1982 Asian Games 100m final, had some fascinating contests with the Indian legend. • FILE PHOTO

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

When P.T. Usha was at her peak in the eighties, nobody in Asia could touch her in the 200, 400m, or the 400m hurdles. But there was one girl, Lydia de Vega of the Philippines, who could trouble Asia's golden girl frequently in the 100m.

"Those days, I did not have any competition in any event except the 100m. Lydia always used to give me a tough fight in the 100m. She was my greatest rival," said Usha in a chat with *The Hindu* on Thursday.

Lydia, the sprinter with movie star looks who gave Asian athletics some of its greatest moments with her sparkling rivalry with Usha, passed away in Manila on Wednesday at age 57 after a four-year battle with breast cancer.

"I got the message about Lydia's death last night. I was very sad and upset because she was a good friend and a great rival," said Usha.

Usha, who had run nearly 10 finals against Lydia at the Asian Games and Asian Championships, had lost the Asiad 100m final twice (New Delhi 1982 and Seoul 1986), to the Filipino. At the Asian Championships 100m, Usha had beaten Lydia in Jakarta 1985 but lost in Singapore 1987.

"My most memorable races against Lydia were in the 1986 Asian Games. After she beat me in the 100m, I came from behind and beat her in the 200m with a nice dip at the finish," said Usha.

Loved by the family

"She was a very glamorous girl, had a beautiful physique and nicely-toned muscles. She came for training and for races wearing make-up and had a lot of fans. Everybody in our family liked her. In fact my uncle T.V. Narayanan, who brought me to sport, named his daughter who was born around that time as Lydia."

Lydia was to the Philippines what Usha was to India and fans thronged to see the girl who had beaten the great Usha for the Asia's fastest athlete title a few times.

Always tough

"Her attitude and competitive spirit were great. Those were wonderful days... I used win a lot of golds but the 100m was always tough, so there was a lot written about our rivalry," said Usha.

"That lasted for four or five years, I don't see such long rivalries now."

Rahul cleared to play, to lead India

The three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe begins Aug. 18

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The BCCI medical team, which assessed K.L. Rahul's fitness, cleared him to play in the three-match ODI series in Zimbabwe. The All-India senior selection committee appointed him captain and named Shikhar Dhawan as his deputy.

Batter Regis Chakabva will lead the 17-member Zimbabwe squad for the series beginning on August 18. The second and third matches will be held on August 20 and 22.

All the three games, which will be played at the Harare Sports Club, will begin at 1 p.m. IST.

The squads:

India: K.L. Rahul (Capt.), Shikhar Dhawan (Vice-capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shubman Gill, Deepak Hooda, Rahul Tripathi, Ishan Kishan (wk), Sanju Samson (wicket-keeper), Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Avesh Khan, Prasidh Krishna, Mohd. Siraj, and Deepak Chahar.

Zimbabwe: Regis Chakabva (Capt.), Ryan Burl, Tanaka Chivanga, Bradley Evans, Luke Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, Takudzwanashe Kaitano, Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, John Masara, Tony Munyonga , Richard Ngarava, Victor Nyauchi, Sikandar Raza, Milton Shumba, and Donald Tiripano.

Rahul. • FILE PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

Kiwis hold nerve to win

NZ IN WI

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KINGSTON

A solid innings of 47 by returning captain Kane Williamson and a dashing 33 from 15 balls by Jimmy Neesham propelled New Zealand to a 13-run win over the West Indies in the first of three Twenty20 Internationals.

Neesham struck three fours from the last three balls and 23 runs from the last over of the innings as New Zealand made 185 for five after being sent in to bat at Sabina Park on Wednesday.

Left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner took three for 19 as New Zealand restricted the West Indies to 172 for seven in 20 overs.

Openers Martin Guptill and Devon Conway gave the tourists a strong start, putting on 63 for the first wicket. But the pair fell to consecutive deliveries from Odean Smith, who went on to take career-best figures of three for 32.

The New Zealand innings briefly lost momentum but Williamson re-established the impetus of the innings by taking 33 runs from his next 18 deliveries.

The scores:

New Zealand 185/5 in 20 overs (Kane Williamson 47, Devon Conway 43, Jimmy Neesham 33 n.o.; Odean Smith 3/32) bt West Indies 172/7 in 20 overs (Shamarh Brooks 42, Romario Shepherd 31 n.o. Odean Smith 27 n.o.; Santner 3/19) .

Ireland takes a 2-0 lead

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BELFAST

Ireland took a 2-0 lead against Afghanistan in the best-of-five T20I series after Andy Balbirnie's knock (46) and George Dockrell's unbeaten 25 took the host to a five-wicket win with an over to spare here on Thursday.

Afghanistan left itself too much to do with the ball after posting just 122 for eight in 20 overs after electing to bat.

The scores:

Afghanistan 122/8 in 20 overs (Hashmatullah Shahidi 36) lost to Ireland 125/5 in 19 overs (Andy Balbirnie 46).

CSK-owned franchise signs up du Plessis

Rashid, Rabada, Livingstone, Brevis and Sam Curran roped in by MI Cape Town

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Former South Africa captain Faf du Plessis has been roped in by the Johannesburg franchise owned by IPL giant Chennai Super Kings as its marquee signing for the inaugural edition of the Cricket South Africa (CSA) T20 League, according to a report.

The franchise is also believed to have roped in England all-rounder Moeen Ali as one of its marquee players.

Afghanistan's star spinner Rashid Khan, South African pace spearhead Kagiso Rabada and dashing English batter Liam Livingstone are among the five direct signings of MI Cape Town.

Rashid. • FILE PHOTO

Du Plessis. • FILE PHOTO

The talented Dewald Brevis, who played for Mumbai Indians in the IPL along with England all-rounder Sam Curran are the other two direct signings of the franchise.

Wednesday was the last day for the direct acquisition of players for the six-team upcoming league.

The inaugural edition of the CSA T20 League is scheduled to be played in January-February 2023 and all the six franchises in the tournament have been acquired by current IPL team owners.

Apart from CSK owning the Johannesburg-based franchise, MI Cape Town is the sister franchise of Mumbai Indians and the teams from Durban, Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth), Paarl and Pretoria are owned by Lucknow Super Giants, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Rajasthan Royals and Delhi Capitals respectively.

LIVE TELECAST

KSCA Maharaja T20: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Ireland vs Afghanistan: 3rd T20I, FanCode, 8 p.m.
West Indies vs New Zealand: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 12 a.m. (Saturday)
Bundesliga: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)
La Liga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

IN BRIEF

Pant is Uttarakhand brand ambassador

DEHRADUN

Cricketer Rishabh Pant was appointed as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in a programme in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Elliott signs new deal with Liverpool

LIVERPOOL

Liverpool tied down 19-year-old Harvey Elliott to a new "long-term" deal on Thursday that will reportedly run until 2027. AFP

Vishal does it for Roots

BENGALURU

R. Vishal's goal helped Roots FC edge out Kickstart FC 1-0 in the C. Puttaiah Memorial football tournament here.
The results: Roots FC 1 (R. Vishal 45) bt Kickstart FC 0; JSW Bengaluru FC 5 (Akashdeep Singh 32, 46, Thoi Singh 54, Lalhmingchhuanga 82, Edwin Rossario 86) bt Kodagu FC 0.

Rohan powers Mystics' thumping win

Left-hander hammers an unbeaten 112 against Warriors; Blasters beat United

MAHARAJA TROPHY

CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

Gulbarga Mystics rode on opener Rohan Patil's unbeaten 112 (47b, 11x4, 11x6) to register a facile nine-wicket win over Mysore Warriors on the fifth day of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 tournament here on Thursday.

The left-handed Rohan, with some belligerent stroke-play, scored 32 runs (four sixes & two fours) off medium-pacer Vidyadhar Patil's first over to give his team a flying start (47/0 in three overs).

Rohan, who cruised to his half century in just 15 balls (the fastest in the tournament), dominated the proceedings to score the fastest century and the first of the tournament in 42 balls (10x4, 6x6). K.L. Shrijith remained not out with 46 (29b, 6x4,1x6).

Put into bat, Warriors posted 160 for four in a match reduced to 19 overs. Nihal Ullal (27), Naga Bharath (35) and Pavan Deshpande (41) were the main contributors.

Going berserk: Rohan feasted on the Warriors' attack. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chethan shines

Earlier, Bangalore Blasters, aided by stroke-filled 66 (39b, 4x4, 5x6) from opener L.R. Chethan, posted 189 for nine in 20 overs in a rain-marred game before registering a 35-run win over Mangalore United by the VJD method. Chethan and skipper Mayank Agarwal (44, 20b, 7x4, 1x6) added 73 in 6.4 overs, before the latter departed.

After Chethan's dismissal at 126 in the 11th over, Blasters lost K.V. Aneesh (6), Suraj Ahuja (10), J. Suchith (0) and Anirudha Joshi (1) in quick succession as United came back into the game by reducing their rivals to 146 for six in 15.3 overs.

In reply, United started shakily losing skipper R. Samarth for 1 but fellow-opener Macneil Narona (50, 36b, 4x4, 2x6) and S.J. Nikin Jose (35, 33b, 1x4, 2x6) added 70 in 54 balls before the latter was caught at mid-wicket (79/2 in 10.2 overs).

Wickets fell at regular intervals from there on and when United reached 129 for seven in 17.4 overs, rain halted play. They fell short of the 164-par score (VJD method) to suffer their first defeat in four games.

The scores: Bengaluru Blasters 186/9 in 20 overs (L.R. Chethan 66, Mayank Agarwal 44, Anneshwar Gowtham 2/18, Amit Verma 2/27, M.Venkatesh 2/41) bt Mangalore United 129/7 in 17.4 overs (Macneil Narona 50, S.J. Nikin Jose 35, Rishi Bopanna 4/19) *by VJD method*

Mysore Warriors 160/4 in 19 overs (Pavan Deshpande 41, Naga Bharath 35, Nihal Ullal 27) lost to Gulbarga Mystics 162/1 in 14.1 overs (Rohan Patil 112 n.o, K.L. Srijith 46 n.o).

Shakib cancels deal after BCB ultimatum

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
DHAKA

Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan on Thursday cancelled an endorsement deal with a betting site hours after the Bangladesh Cricket Board issued an ultimatum to him to either ditch it or face the axe by the national team.

"Shakib gave a letter to us saying that he was terminating his contract with Betwinner news and removing all posts from his social media pages regarding the deal," BCB cricket operations chief Jalal Yunus told AFP.

Gambling firm

Shakib last week announced a partnership with Betwinner news, a portal operated by the gambling firm based on the Dutch Caribbean island of Curacao.

He wrote on his social media pages that it was the "one and only source of sports news!"

All forms of gambling are illegal in Bangladesh – although it is rampant during cricket matches when underground punters exploit a brief delay between live play and official broadcasts – and cricket administrators were quick to seek an explanation from the player.

BCB president Nazmul Hassan said they had asked Shakib to choose between the national team and Betwinner and the issue was non-negotiable.

Brazil rejects WC qualifier against Argentina

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SAO PAULO

Brazil insisted that it won't play its suspended World Cup qualifying match against Argentina next month, arguing that the risks are too high ahead of the tournament in Qatar.

The qualifier here nearly one year ago was stopped by local health officials after six minutes due to COVID-19 protocols regarding four Argentinian players.

FIFA fined the football bodies of both countries and demanded the match be played. Brazil's confederation and Argentina's federation took the case to the Court for Arbitration of Sport, which is expected to rule later in August. The game would be in September but FIFA has not set a date. Brazil coach Tite does not want to play the match due to risks of injuries, suspensions and a potential boycott by the Argentinians, according to Brazilian confederation president Ednaldo Rodrigues.

Brazilian media has reported the Selecao would rather play two friendlies in Europe.

"We will reach out to FIFA so this match is not played. I will make every effort to answer to the request of our coaching staff," Rodrigues said in a statement.

"Our priority is to win the World Cup in Qatar. If that match is not recommended by the coaching staff of the Selecao, we will work for it not to be played."

India to play Vietnam, Singapore in Sept.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Indian men's football team will play two international friendlies against Singapore and host Vietnam in September, it was announced on Thursday. India will face Singapore on Sept. 24 before taking on Vietnam on Sept. 27.

Vietnam is hosting the friendlies in the FIFA window (Sept. 19 to 27) as part of its preparation for the 2022 AFF Mitsubishi Electric Cup.

The Blue Tigers will travel to Vietnam on Sept. 22 and return home on Sept. 28 and the matches are expected to take place in Ho Chi Minh City, according to the Vietnam Football Federation (VFF) website.

The three teams will play in a tournament from Sept. 21 to 27 and the team with the highest points after the round-robin league will be declared the champion.

"We are happy about the upcoming challenges and we're looking forward to maintaining the quality of performances that we have recently dished out," India head coach Igor Stimac said.

Sania-Keys combine in Toronto quarters

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Sania Mirza and Madison Keys knocked out top seeds Veronika Kudermetova and Elsie Mertens 3-6, 6-4, [10-8] in the second round of the $2,527,250 WTA tennis in Toronto.

The results: $2,527,250 ATP, Toronto, Canada: Second round: Madison Keys (USA) & Sania Mirza bt Veronika Kudermetova & Elise Mertens (Bel) 3-6, 6-4, [10-8].

$53,120 Challenger, Chicago, USA: First round: Yuki Bhambri & Saketh Myneni bt Luke Saville & Jordan Thompson (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, [14-12].

€45,730 Challenger, Meerbusch, Germany: First round: Jonas Forejtek (Cze) & Sumit Nagal bt Adrian Andreev (Bul) & Alexey Vatutin 6-0, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Second round: Sasikumar Mukund bt Masamichi Imamura (Jpn) 6-4, 6-3; Yuta Shimizu (Jpnn) bt Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam 6-4, 7-6(1); S.D. Prajwal Dev bt Kento Takeuchi (Jpn) 6-2, 6-2.

Women: Naho Sato (Jpn) bt Jennifer Luikham 6-2, 6-1.

$25,000 ITF women, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan: Second round: Daria Kudashova bt Sahaja Yamalapalli 6-3, 4-6, 7-6(9); Ashmitha Easwaramurthi bt Sofia Vaynberg 6-4, 6-3.

$25,000 ITF women, Parnu, Estonia: Second round: Elena Mmalygina (Est) bt Zeel Desai 6-3, 7-5.

$15,000 ITF women, Cairo, Egypt: Second round: Elena Pridankina bt Kundali Majgaine 6-1, 6-1; **First round:** Kundali bt Nathalie Mokhtar (Egy) 6-2, 6-1.

Real Madrid clinches fifth Super Cup

Alaba and Benzema on target as team downs Eintracht Frankfurt 2-0

FOOTBALL

REUTERS
HELSINKI

Champions League winner Real Madrid outclassed Eintracht Frankfurt 2-0 on Wednesday to clinch the UEFA Super Cup for a record-equalling fifth time.

A first half goal from David Alaba and another from Karim Benzema in the 65th that lifted him to second in Real's all-time scoring list with 324 goals, wrapped up the title for the Spaniards.

Europa League winner Eintracht had offered some resistance in the first half and had chances to score but were eventually overrun by the Spaniards.

The win also means Real's Carlo Ancelotti becomes the first coach to lift the trophy four times. The Italian had named the same starting 11 that began the winning Champions League final in Paris in May.

Dominant: The Real Madrid players with the trophy. • AFP

Eintracht was without playmaker Filip Kostic who is close to a move to Juventus. The side ooked more disciplined than in the 6-1 loss to Bayern Munich last week in their Bundesliga season-opener. The win brought Real level with AC Milan and Barcelona who have also five Super Cup wins.

Supreme Court asserts it will ensure India hosts Under-17 women's football World Cup

Allows Sports Ministry request for chance to calm troubled waters within AIFF

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday allowed a request made by the Sports Ministry for an opportunity to calm the troubled waters within the All India Football Federation (AIFF) by meeting with its Committee of Administrators and FIFA.

But the Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud made it a point to remind that it wants India to host the Under-17 Women's World Cup in October 2022 and the court would assert every authority under its command to make it happen.

The sharp remarks from the Bench came while hearing a contempt petition filed by the Committee of Administrators (CoA), who complained that AIFF's former president, Praful Patel, and some States' football associations were moving indirectly to thwart the Supreme Court's interim order on August 3 to conduct elections to the federation and finalise the AIFF's Constitution in time for the World Cup.

"You want to sort it out among yourselves, we have no difficulty because we want the World Cup to be held here... and should it come to it we will assert our authority without any exception," Justice Chandrachud addressed the lawyers for AIFF, State associations, the Ministry and other parties in the case.

The hearing began with Additional Solicitor General Balbir Singh, for the Ministry, informing the court that a meeting was held on Wednesday with the FIFA officials.

Mr. Singh said a further meeting was scheduled among FIFA, the CoA and the Ministry.

Sorting it out

"All the counsel appearing for every contesting party without exception said it will be desirable if the matter is sorted out amicably," Justice Chandrachud observed.

The court listed the case for hearing next Wednesday.

On August 3, the Supreme Court had passed an interim order to the AIFF to hold and conclude elections to its executive committee as expeditiously as possible. The court had agreed to a 27-day time election schedule prepared by the CoA. According to this schedule the results of the election would be declared on August 28/29, 2022.

Conducting elections

The court ordered that the election should be conducted in a manner consistent with the provisions of Article 26 of the draft Constitution prepared by the CoA which prescribes the limits and conditions of eligibility for candidates.

The court had also agreed with the CoA's proposal that 36 eminent players who represent prominent football players' community should be part of the electoral college with right to vote in the AIFF polls.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Ashwin does the star turn for Vivek's SC against MCHS

Ashwin's 26 points powered Vivek's SC past MCHS 68-50 in the State Youth under-16 basketball championship for boys here.
The results: Boys: Quarterfinal: Vivek's SC 68 (Ashwin 26, Manoj 14) bt MCHS 50 (Krithik 17); VNSC 58 (Daksh 21, Ayush 20) bt MNK Rao BC 41 (Shivaprakash 11); Beagles BC 41 (Jitesh 10, Chirag 10) bt BCBC 37 (Parth 14, Keerthi 11); PPC 64 (Milind 23, Hriday 17) bt Koramangala SC 55 (Sudeep 17, Raghav 11). **Girls: Round-of-16:** Mounts Club 64 (Nakshatra 17, Nidhi 13) bt JSC 51 (Aadhya 29); CJC 39 (Aadhya Gowda 21) bt All Star Academy 24; Southern Blues 72 (Nidhi 34, Meah 13) bt DYES Vijayapura 54 (Shivabai 20, Sakshi 19); DYES Mysore 42 (Yashaswini 20) bt Beagles BC 31 (Akshiti 10); BCBC 43 (Tisha 16, Sachika 12) bt MNK Rao BC 28; Rajmahal BC 57 (Rujula 14, Venisha 14) bt Aryans BC 28 (Vaishnavi 11).

Karthik and Shailendra shine in MES PUC's win over Vidyaniketan

Karthik (60) and Shailendra (4/25) took MES PUC to a 16-run win over Vidyaniketan in the REVA Independence Day T20 inter-collegiate PUC tournament here.
The scores:
Sheshadripuram 116 in 17.4 overs lost to KLE Society 117 for two in 14.1 overs (P. Rahul 44 n.o.).
MES 196/7 in 20 overs (Karthik 60, Rihith 41) bt Vidyaniketan 181 for seven in 20 overs (S.M. Sharwa 44, Tarun Tejas 32, Shailendra 4/25).
Sheshadripuram 147/8 in 20 overs (U. Rohith 49, L. Rakshith 5/10) bt Vijaya Composite 81 in 14.4 overs.

Chinmaya Vidyalaya to take on St. Joseph's for the honours

Chinmaya Vidyalaya defeated Vidyashilp Academy 3-2 in the semifinals of the St. Joseph's Boys' High School Centenary Shield (under-17) hockey tournament.
The results: Centenary Shield (U-17): Semifinals: Chinmaya Vidyalaya 3 (Chetan Kumar 5, Manish 8, Bhuvan 12) bt Vidyashilp Academy 2 (M.N. Ayush 31, M. Pradyun 35).
St. Joseph's BHS 3 (Bhavesh 25, 36, Manav 28) bt Frank Antony PS 1 (P. Arjun 50).

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